



FEB. 1976

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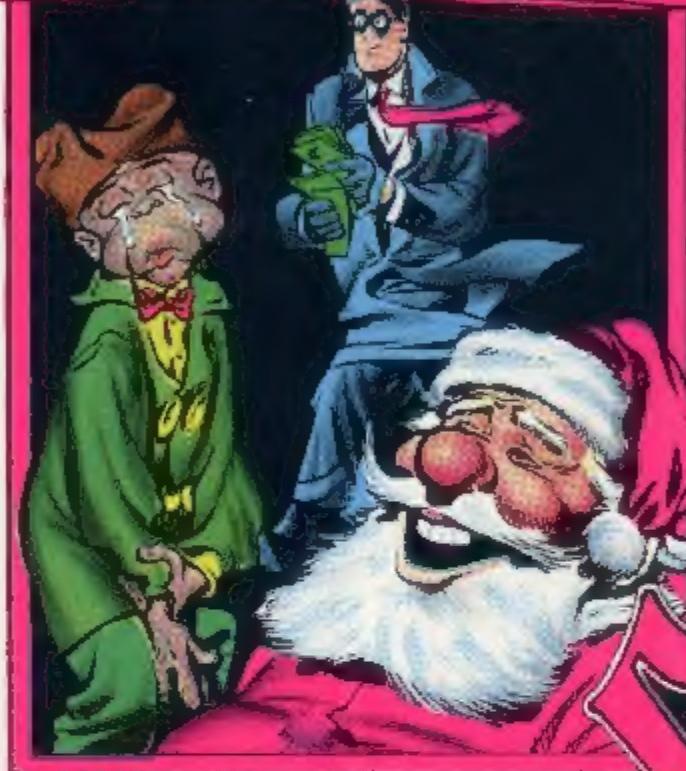
THE SPIRIT

By

Will
EISNER

59296-5
PDC

\$1.25



The
Christmas
Spirit



NINE
CLASSICS
OF ADVENTURE!



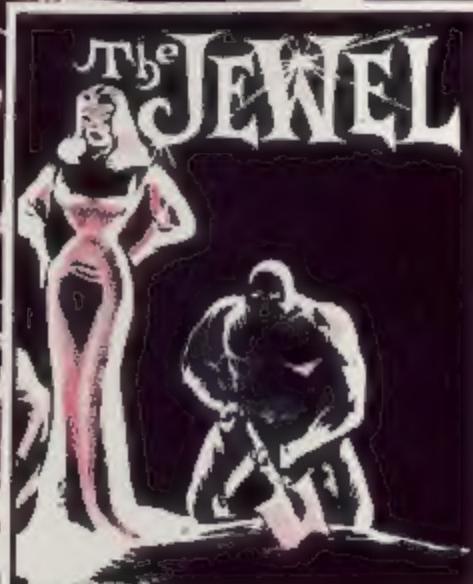
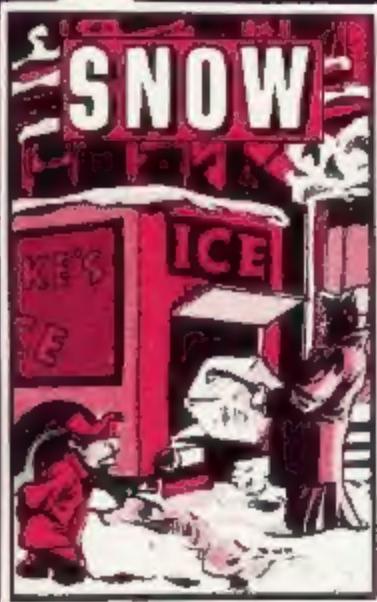
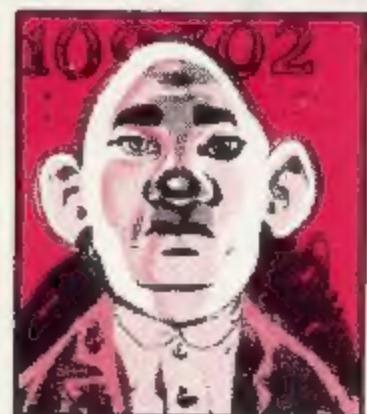
CARRION

THE SPIRIT

Foxy CompoTe



BIG ARKY



PANCHO
DE BOOL



R-E-S-C-U-E



The Christmas
SPIRIT





OUR COVER
Christmas Greetings from the Christmas SPIRIT. A special yuletide cover montage brought to you by the incredible talents of Will Eisner with color by Bill DuBay!

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THE SPIRIT'S DEAD LETTERS



Whatever a father and son can share with each other encourages the growth of a small avenue of communication.

Your SPIRIT reprints are for my ten and four-year old sons and me; such an avenue. In fact, the shared enjoyment is causing the avenues to be widened for more efficient traffic flow!

Thank you for providing, in the context of what Marshall McLuhan calls a linear media, a unique kind of non-linear paradigm.

Against your magic, the Saturday morning animated experiences suffer, as well they should, by comparison.

In short, my sons and I like THE SPIRIT very much.

PAUL J. VELLANI
ERIC VELLANI
Fultonham, N.Y.

Impact! That's the word for THE SPIRIT #10! That issue was worth its weight in gold!

Outstanding sagas were "THE SPIRIT Origin," "Sound" and "The Octopus Is Back!" And I almost died laughing at "Hobart." And...well, guess what? They were all great!

MIKE TROTMAN
Somerset, N.J.

The stories in SPIRIT #10 were great, though the cover wasn't one of Ken Kelley and Will Eisner's best!

Still, there's no point in focusing on the negative aspects of the magazine when the issue was otherwise so completely, positively great!

I was delighted to read the "Origin of the Spirit!" What a fine color tale! And the addition of two super two-color stories made THE SPIRIT #10 complete success!

I'm looking forward to that super special Christmas issue we've been promised!

DAVID MALL
Manhattan, N.Y.

And here it is, David. Merry Christmas. We hope you like it!

I was first introduced to THE SPIRIT by a French comic weekly called *Tintin*. Each issue featured a complete, translated SPIRIT adventure in full color! The effect was dazzling!

And then came the fabulous, brilliant Warren magazine!

The SPIRIT is an original breed of hero. Behind his creation is the sure hand of a comic genius.

I had read about Will Eisner's cinematographic placement of his characters. But I never imagined that pen and paper alone could create such a remarkable excitement.

Eisner's special ability to incorporate the scenes of everyday life into THE SPIRIT's adventures lends the character believability.

It is only one of many things that makes THE SPIRIT exceptionally great reading!

RAY KHURI
Beirut, Lebanon

Twenty five or thirty years after its inception, THE SPIRIT still ranks as one of the finest comic book characters ever created.

That fabulous hero who takes his job...if not himself...quite seriously was a forerunner in attitude of some of the costumed heroes in vogue today.

Will Eisner's wit and talent has created a hero who, though conceived thirty years ago, seems completely "with it" today.

He's a compassionate, quick tempered, completely decent fellow who by extraordinary luck and skill manages to survive the many numerous, ordinarily lethal adventures.

The Octopus alone would be more than a match for a more ordinary man.

But Will Eisner's creation is THE SPIRIT. And he's not the slightest bit ordinary!

RICHARD MAY
Brooklyn, N.Y.

SPIRIT #10 was the best issue of THE SPIRIT yet!

Fabulous tales like "The Octopus Is Back" and "Heat/Quiet" gave me hours of fine reading.

Will Eisner never ceases to amaze me. He is one of the finest talents comics has produced ever.

Work like THE SPIRIT has begun to make people the world over sit up and take notice. Many have begun to accept comics as one of the great American art forms!

Yarn-spinning has always been one of the great, traditional Yankee pastimes.

And Eisner's tales are fine examples of the way stories should be told! Complete with pictures!

Three cheers for Eisner's tall tales!

Keep 'em comin', Will!

GREG SAWYER
Greenwich, Conn.

THE SPIRIT is the finest black and white comic magazine available today!

The sophistication of Will Eisner's concept and execution has resulted in stories and characters that are essentially timeless.

From the largest to the smallest personality, they shine with a brilliance of understanding that is Will Eisner's alone.

The sequential tales of THE SPIRIT #10, "Heat" and "Quiet" are perfect examples of Eisner's richness of characterization and attention to detail.

The former story, particularly, uses the truly believable, everyday, garden-variety heatwave, like the one we had last summer, to set the scene for a remarkable everyday tale of attempted murder.

Eisner has assembled a cast of typical dwellers...who are anything but cardboard cutout characters.

Their reactions are human, predictable, ordinary. Their lives are hum-drum. Yet from these tools, Eisner has managed to create one of the most gripping SPIRIT tales I have ever read.

The Octopus has wounded the SPIRIT badly. Our hero is dying. And everyone in Central City is so caught up in their own, everyday concerns (with the added burden of trying to get some relief from the incredible heat) that no one notices. THE SPIRIT, weakened from loss of blood, is simply unable to get anyone's attention.

When Eisner finally allows a rescue, I, for one, breathed a gigantic sigh of relief.

"Heat" was certainly touch and go for THE SPIRIT. And it was the finest, most gripping Eisner tale I have ever read!

THE SPIRIT is fabulous.

JASON GREEN
Baltimore, Md.



THE SPIRIT #10 was one of the best SPIRIT issues ever! Reader favorites varied from "Heat/Quiet" to "The Octopus Is Back" to "The Origin of THE SPIRIT." Each had its fans!

ENVY THE SPIRIT!

His days are filled with crime fighting. His nights with romance. But every now and then he needs a stiff dose of reality. Let him have it! Write THE SPIRIT!

THE SPIRIT'S DEAD LETTERS
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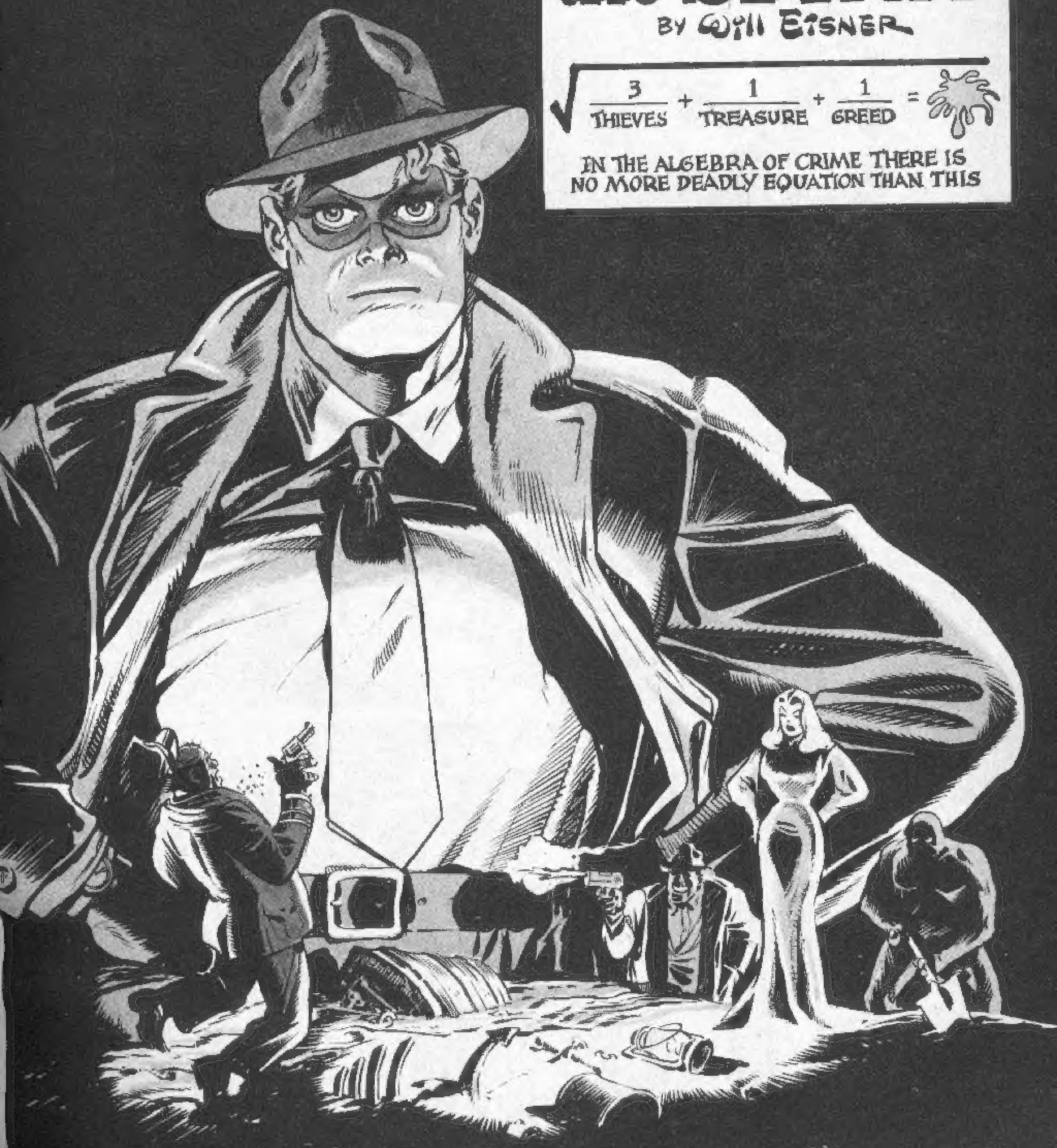
The JEWEL

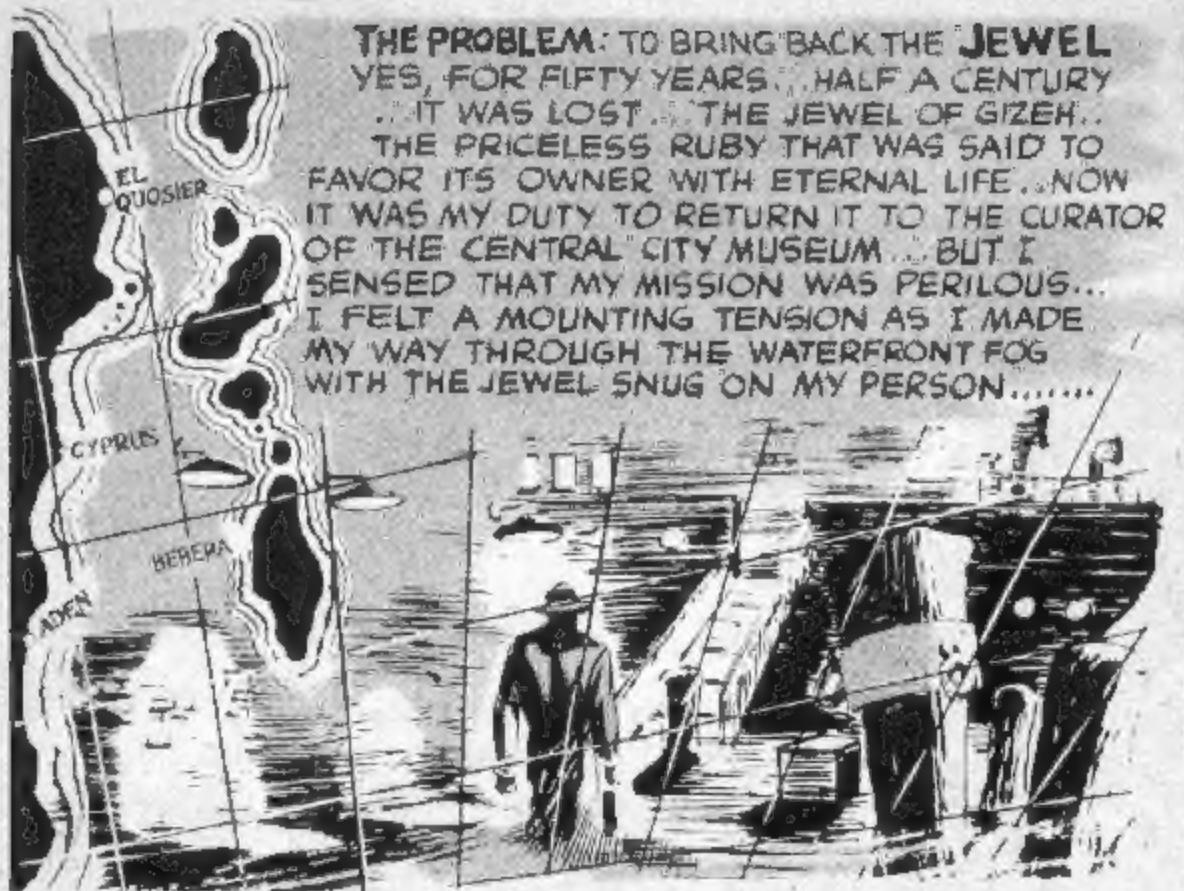
the SPIRIT

BY WILL EISNER

$$\sqrt{\frac{3}{\text{THIEVES}}} + \frac{1}{\text{TREASURE}} + \frac{1}{\text{GREED}} = \text{BOOM}$$

IN THE ALGEBRA OF CRIME THERE IS
NO MORE DEADLY EQUATION THAN THIS





...FOUR DAYS OUT OF EL QUOSIER...
FOUR DAYS OF CONSTANT RAIN... THE
FOG HAD LIFTED TO A LIGHT MIST AND
ALL THIS TIME I HAD KEPT TO MY CABIN...



SOMETIMES... THROUGH THE
PAPER-THIN WALLS I COULD
HEAR THE VOICES OF MY
FELLOW PASSENGERS...



TWO PEOPLE... MAN AND
WOMAN... AND SHE
SOUNDS FAMILIAR... MAYBE
MY LAYING LOW WAS WISER
THAN I THOUGHT...



THE FOLLOWING NIGHT I LEFT MY CABIN
FOR THE FIRST TIME...

'EVENIN', CAPTAIN
SKROOB...

EVENIN'...
HOW D'YA LIKE
TH' TRIP?...
MUST GET PRETTY
CLOSE IN YOUR
CABIN ALL THE
TIME!



ON THE CONTRARY... MY PORTHOLE
FACES OUT IN THIS DIRECTION.
EVERY NIGHT I CAN LOOK OUT AND
SEE THE MOON... HEY!

SOMETHIN'
WRONG,
MISTER...?



THE MOON...WE SHOULD
BE FACING THE MOON!
WE'VE CHANGED
COURSE!

BETTER GO BACK
TO YER CABIN..
THE DECK IS PRETTY
SLIPPERY FROM THE
RAIN...Y'MIGHT FALL
OVERBOARD!



I GOT TO THE CABIN AND TURNED ON THE
LIGHTS...

COME IN,
SPIRIT..
WE WERE
GETTING
TIRED OF
WAITING!





CAPTAIN SKROOB.. ARREST THESE MEN. THEY TRIED TO KILL THE SPIRIT!

HMM... ON DECK- ALL OF YOU!

THEY'RE BOTH CRIMINALS... WANTED IN EL QUOSIER.. THERE'S PROBABLY A REWARD!

I'LL WAGER YOUR HEAD PROBABLY HAS A NICE PRICE ON IT AS WELL!

LISTEN TO ME.. WAIT A MINUTE.. LAND! WE'VE DOCKED! LAND WE HAVE... LOWER THE DINGHY!

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS? THERE IS NO SCHEDULED PORT FOR 200 MILES!

SHUT UP!
DRAG THE UNCONSCIOUS LUBBER INTO THE BOAT!

THIS IS KIDNAPPING!

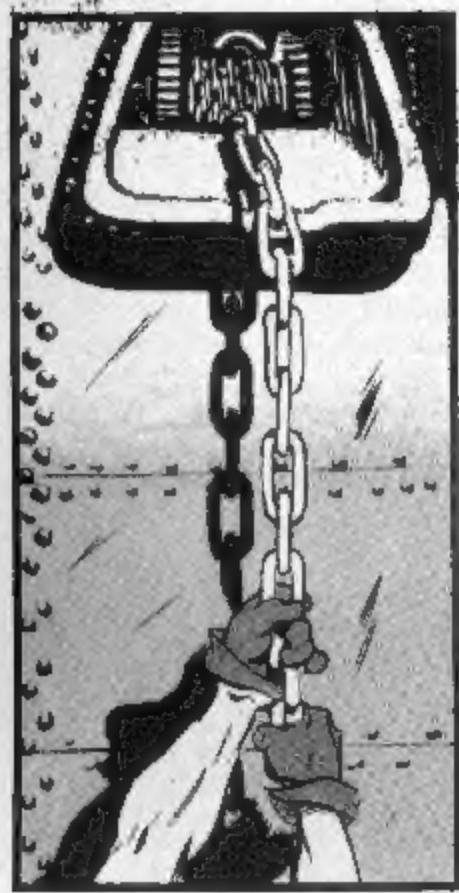
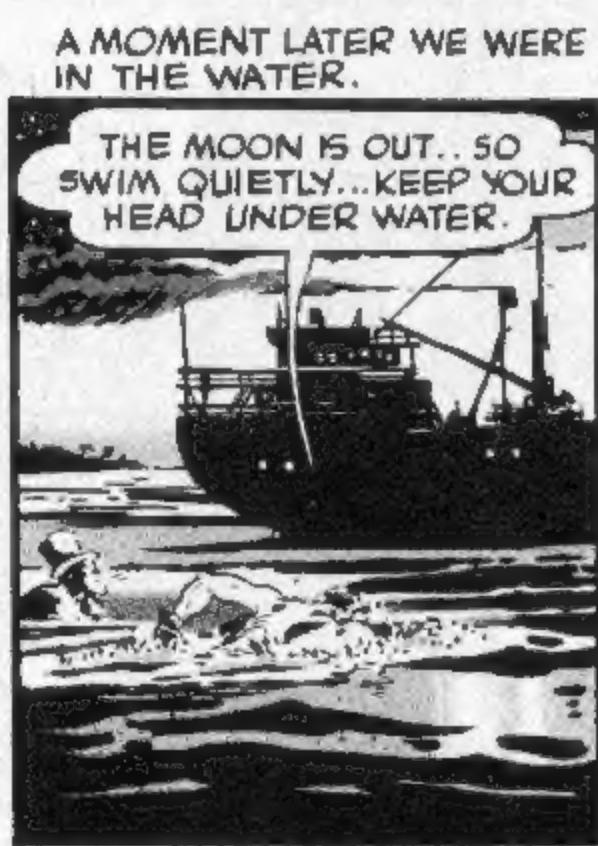
YOU CAN'T DO THIS!

AT LAST... AFTER TEN YEARS... HOLLOW ROCK AND 500,000 DOLLARS IN GOLD BULLION!

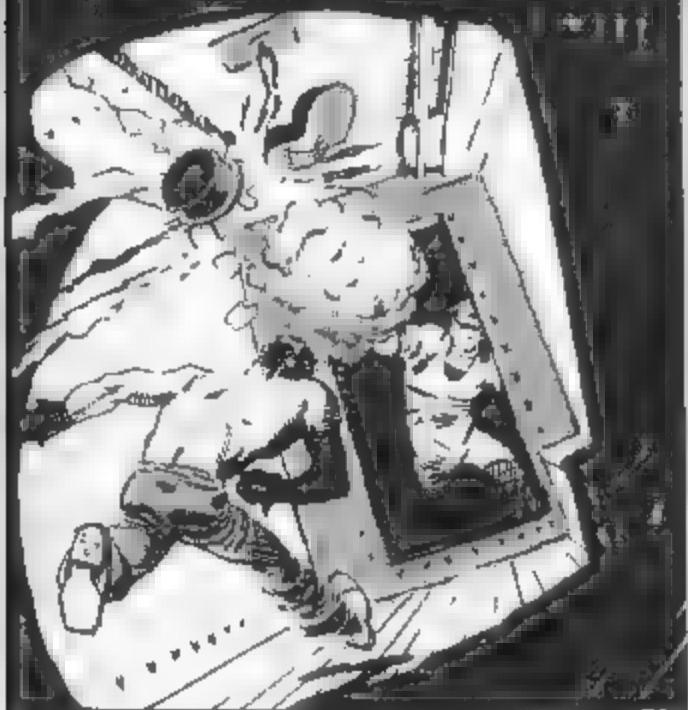
LOOKIT THIS BOOTY... I TOLD 'EM THE SHIP BURNED AND THE GOLD SUNK T' TH' BOTTOM! THAT WAS IN 1940... AN' NOW I'VE GOT THE GOLD... ALL T'MESELF!

WHAT ABOUT US?.. JUST WHY DID YOU BOOK PASSENGERS... FOR A VOYAGE LIKE THIS!??

CAPTAIN SKROOB AIN'T ONE T'TURN DOWN EXTRA CASH... BESIDES IT WOULD'A LOOKED SUSPICIOUS LEAVIN' THE HARBOR EMPTY.. NOW DON'T FRET FOLKS.. WE AIN'T GONNA DO YOU NO HARM... WE'RE JES' GONNA LEAVE YA PEACEFUL ON THIS ISLE... Y'C'N WAIT FER THE NEXT SHIP.. IF ONE EVER COMES... HA HA! HA! HA! HA!



SKROOB DUCKED INTO THE HOLD FIRING SHOTS AT ME AS I FOLLOWED...



...AND THEN... IN THE NEXT FIVE SECONDS EVERYTHING HAPPENED...



SPIRIT...SPIRIT...WHERE ARE YOU?.. THE SHIP IS ON FIRE!



THERE IT GOES...THE "ISLAND QUEEN" AND ITS CARGO OF GOLD!

THERE GOES OUR PASSAGE HOME... THIS ISLAND IS OFF THE REGULAR SHIPPING LANES, SO... IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO BE HERE FOR SOME TIME WAITING FOR A "HITCH"!

THAT WHOLE SHIP AND ITS CREW... DESTROYED... CAP'N SKROOB NEVER KNEW THAT THE FAKE FIRE REPORT HE FILED WOULD COME TRUE... TEN YEARS LATER!



CARRION

DATELINE: MARCH 26. AB'D TRAMP STEAMER "ISLAND QUEEN"

LEFT RED SEA ISLAND PORT OF ELQUOSIER 8 A.M. 13/19/50

Zanzibar
Dar-es-Salaam

DESTINATION ••• CENTRAL CITY, USA

...MISSING... BELIEVED TO HAVE FOUNDERED OR OFF COURSE

PASSENGER LIST FILED WITH EAST AFRICAN AUTHORITIES

LISTS ONLY THREE.. SAND SARET, COLONEL MARK, MR. CARRION.

Cuckoo

PORT WORKER REVEALED TODAY THAT HE SAW MASKED MAN

EMBARK SAME VESSEL... BELIEVED TO BE THE SPIRIT

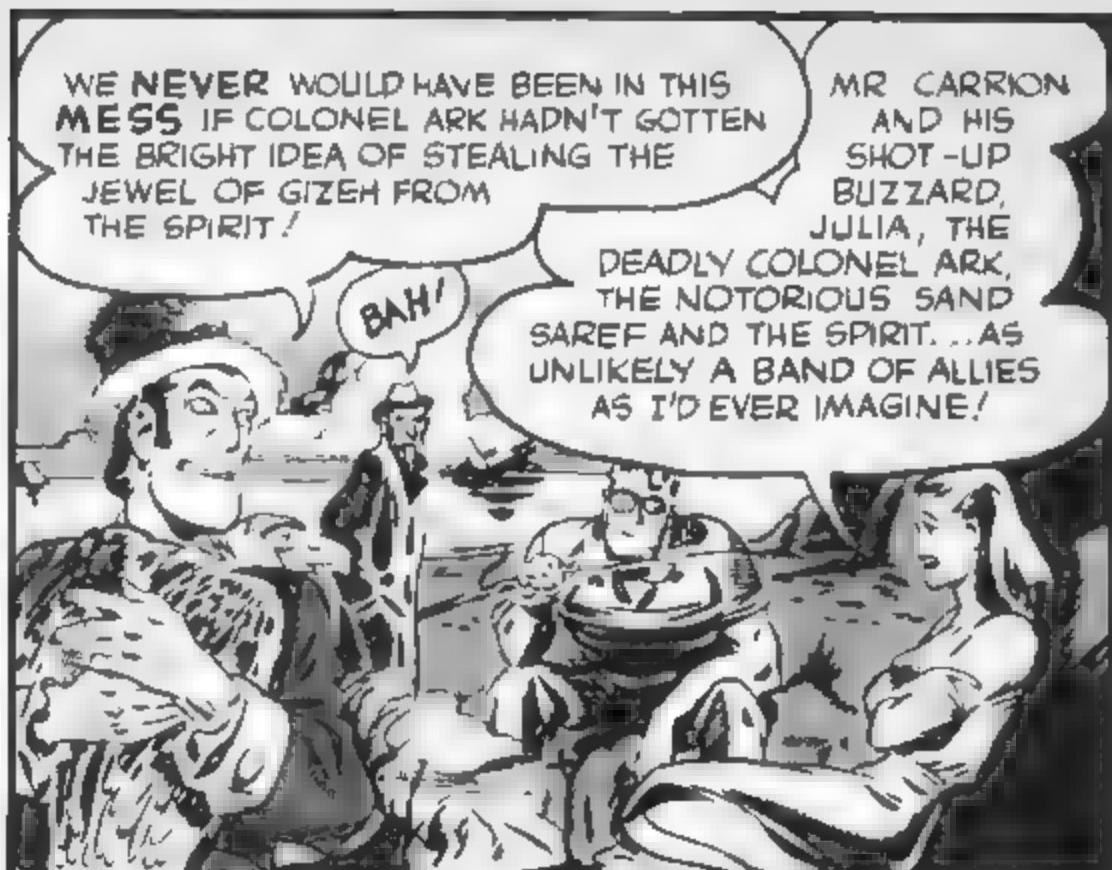
Indian Ocean

Fort Dauphin

SPIRIT

Will Eisner

NOON...AT AN UNKNOWN LATITUDE
INTERSECTED BY AN UNKNOWN
LONGITUDE.



BAH! HOW WAS I TO KNOW THAT BEASTLY SHIP CAPTAIN WOULD TRY TO KILL US ALL? I HOPE HE'S CONTENT WITH HIS PIRATE GOLD BOTH AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA....

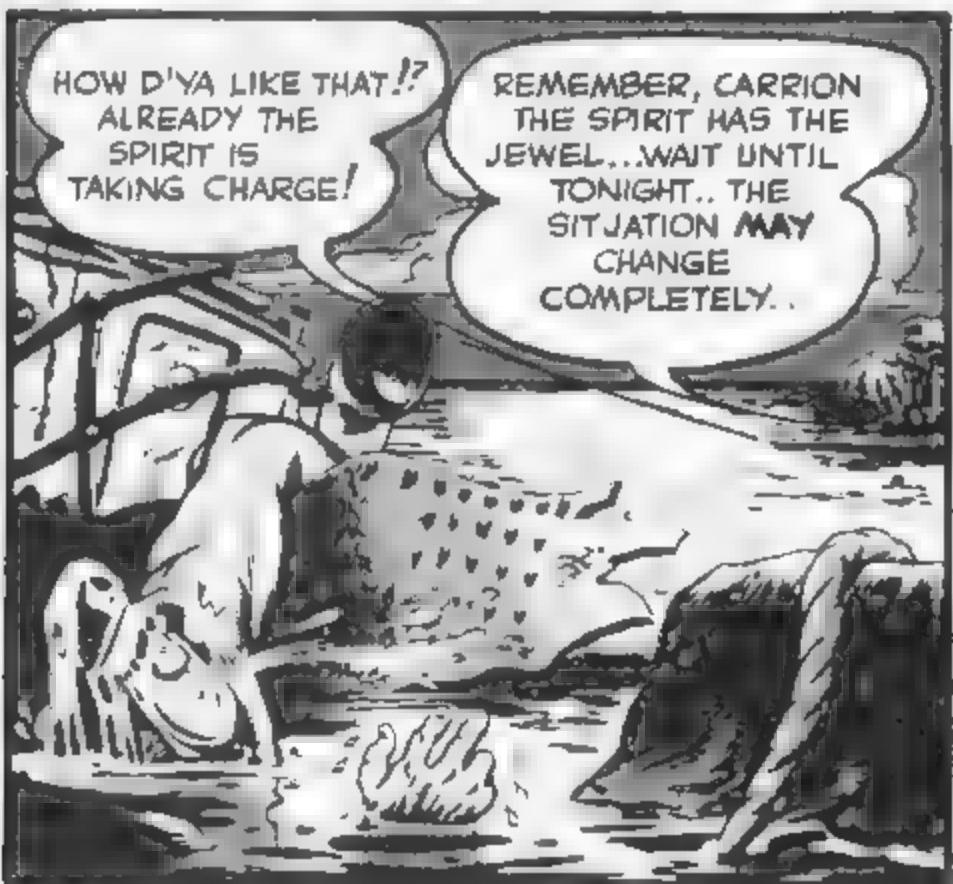


NOON... AND THE LIMP REMAINS OF THE "ISLAND QUEEN" QUIVERS DESPAIRingly ON THEIR ROCKY PRISON...



HOW D'YA LIKE THAT!?
ALREADY THE
SPIRIT IS
TAKING CHARGE!

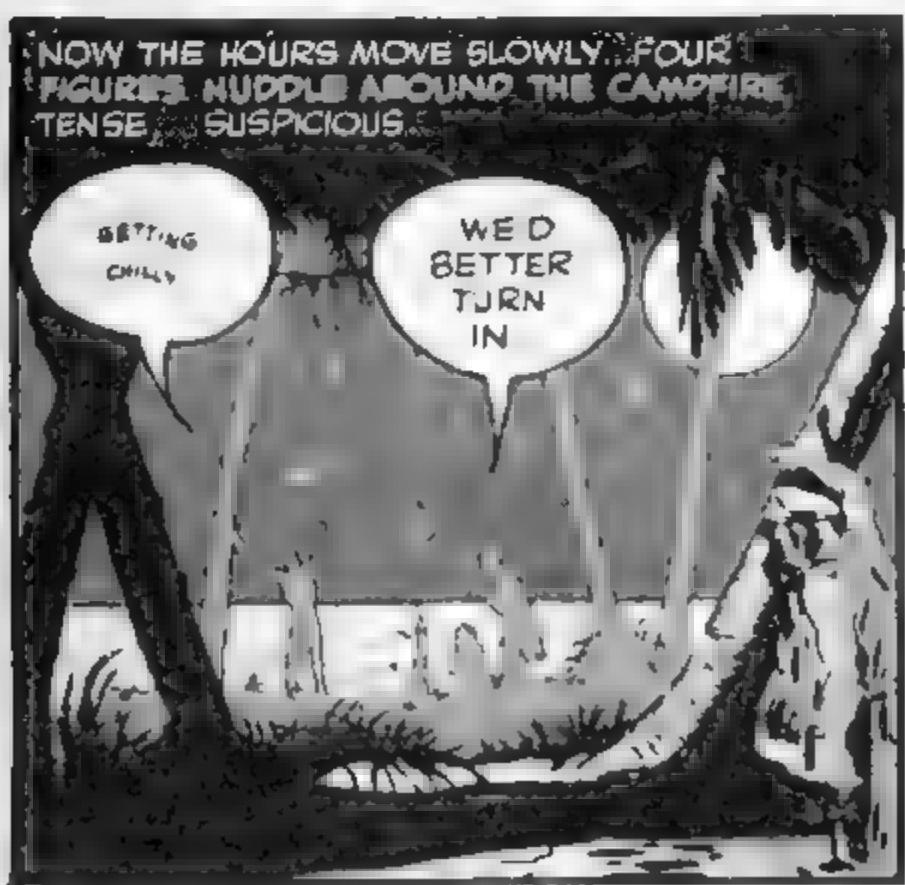
REMEMBER, CARRION
THE SPIRIT HAS THE
JEWEL... WAIT UNTIL
TONIGHT.. THE
SITUATION MAY
CHANGE
COMPLETELY..



HOURS OF WORK, CUTTING DOWN SAPLINGS
WITH PEN KNIVES... FORMING SHELTERS WITH BEDS
OF LEAVES... GATHERING THE FRUIT OF THE TREES,
THE SMALL GAME OF THE FOREST AND SHORE AND
THE FISH OF THE SEA... AND THEN NIGHTFALL AND
A BLAZING CAMPFIRE?

THIS IS OUR SITUATION... WE
HAVE NO IDEA OF WHERE WE ARE... CAPTAIN
SKROOB TOOK US WAY OFF COURSE TO GET
HERE. WE'RE OFF REGULAR SHIPPING LANES
AND WE DON'T KNOW HOW
FAR AWAY THE NEAREST
POPULATED ISLAND IS...







TEN MINUTES LATER

SHOT IN THE STOMACH! LOOKS LIKE
ONLY ONE BULLET. A NEAT JOB!!
LET'S HAVE YOUR GUN, SAND!



ONE OF US DID
THAT'S A CINCH! YOU
HAD THE ONLY GUN!
LET'S HAVE IT!

IT IT'S
GONE!



HE WAS SHOT DURING THE
NIGHT THERE ARE MANY
FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND
BUT I DOUBT IF THEY'LL
PROVE ANYTHING
ONE OF JS IS A
MURDERER. ONE OF US
HAS THAT GUN



THE TIDE ROLLS IN. THE SUN MOVES INTO
THE WEST. IT IS AFTERNOON.

ANYBODY
FEEL LIKE
TALKING?

SPHEW!
ANOTHER
HOT DAY..
EASY JULIA,
MY DARLING
EASY

LEAVE
ME
ALONE!

CAW!



SAND, IF YOU DIDN'T
DO IT, CARRION MUST
HAVE... YOU HAD THE
ONLY...



CRIME... CRIME...
CRIME... THAT'S ALL
YOU THINK OF! I BET
YOU'RE HAPPY
THAT THERE'S BEEN A
MURDER. IT PUTS YOUR
DETECTIVE'S MIND RIGHT
AT EASE!



HEY, SPIRIT.

OUT THERE... THE
WRECK OF THE
"ISLAND QUEEN"!

LOOK



I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN... THE
SUN IS REFLECTING OFF
SOMETHING. IT'S MOVING
BACK AND FORTH. IT
MIGHT BE JUST A TIN CAN!

..OR IT MIGHT
BE A MAN!



JUST WHAT I WAS THINKING.
MAYBE CAPTAIN SKROOB
ISN'T AS DEAD AS WE
THOUGHT. IT'LL
BE DARK IN TWO HOURS.
LET'S WAIT.



NIGHT

IT WOULD EXPLAIN ALL THOSE EXTRA FOOTPRINTS.. HE COULD HAVE SLIPPED ASHORE AT NIGHT AND STOLEN SAND'S GUN!

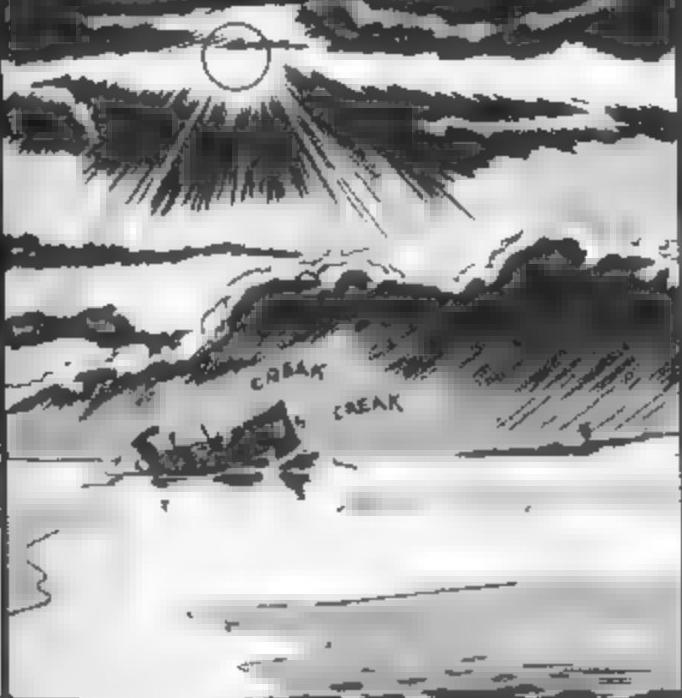
ARK MIGHT HAVE SEEN HIM. THAT'S WHY HE WAS KILLED!

WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?

JUST A HUNCH, SAND. STAY HERE WE'RE GOING SWIMMING!



THE MOON SINKS BEHIND A BANK OF CLOUDS. THE "ISLAND QUEEN" SWAYS AND CREAKS ON ITS SUPPORTING SHOALS.



THE WIND BECOMES STRONGER. ON SHORE SAND SARAF MOVES INLAND AMONG THE TREES FOR SHELTER. SHE DOES NOT HEAR THE TWO SHOTS.



BANG! BANG!



BUGH! YOU'RE A ROTTEN SHOT, CARRION!

I KILLED SKROB. I ONLY WANTED TO WOUND YOU. NOW, MY DEAR SPIRIT.. WHERE IS THE JEWEL OF GIZEH?

POOR CAPTAIN SKROOB! HE REALLY DID STEAL SAND'S GUN LAST NIGHT. ARK AND I WERE BUILDING A RAFT AND WE SAW HIM COME ASHORE. HE KILLED ARK BUT I GOT HIM...

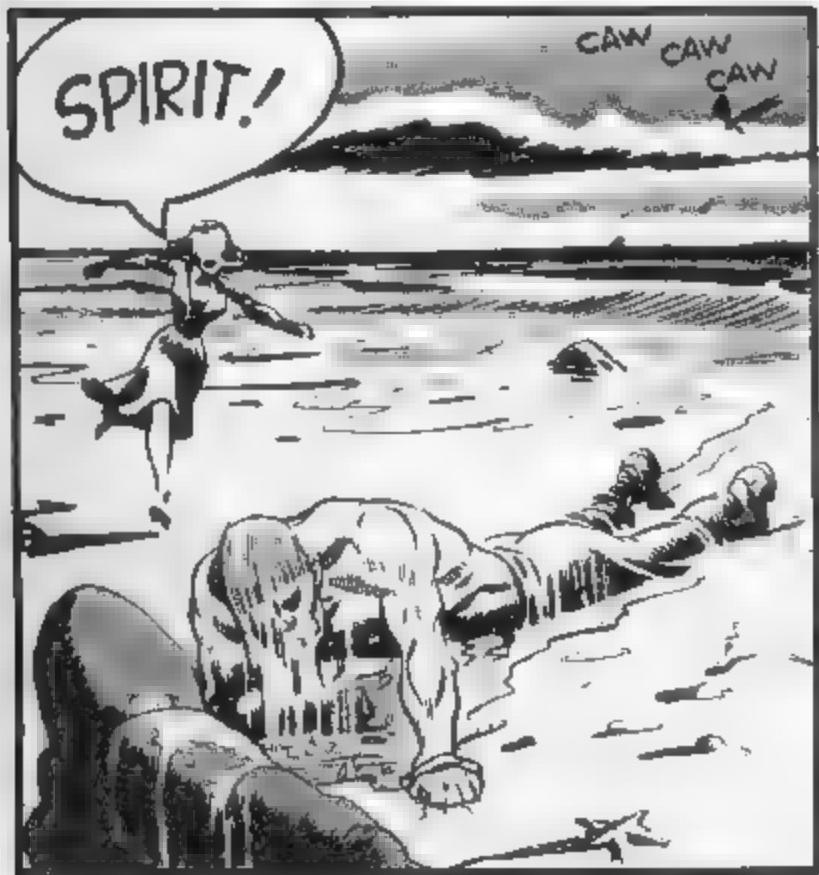
YOU HAD A GUN ON YOU ALL THE TIME...
I SURE WAS A TRUSTING PATSY!

I SURE DID... HID IT IN MY COAT AROUND MY NECK! NOW, QU'T STALL NG... I'LL GIVE YOU TEN SECONDS OF LIFE! WHERE HAVE YOU HIDDEN THE JEWEL?

HEY?

TRY AND FIND IT, CARR...

WITH A DISCORDANT SCREECH, THE ISLAND QUEEN SLIPS FROM THE ROCKS.



SPIRIT!
CAW CAW CAW

WE CAN THANK THE LATE MR CARRION FOR THIS RAFT, SPIRIT. YOU'LL SOON GET MEDICAL AID. WE SHOULD REACH THE MAINLAND BY MORNING ON THIS BREEZE.



R...E...S...O...C...U...E...

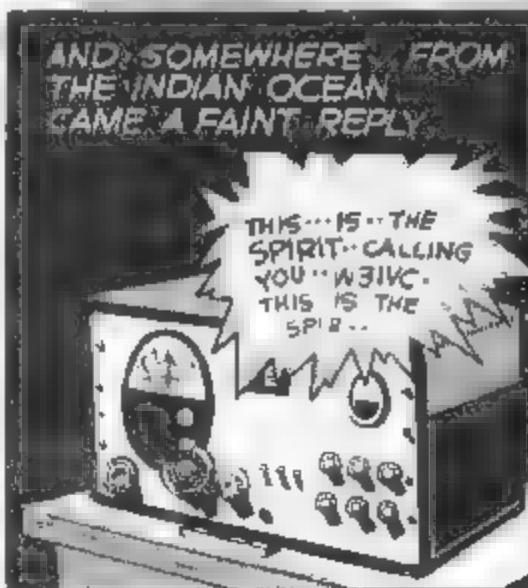
ALL OVER THE WORLD THERE ARE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS CALLED "HAMS". THESE HOBBYISTS OPERATE PRIVATELY OWNED RADIO SENDING AND RECEIVING SETS THAT ARE VERY OFTEN HAND-MADE OF VARYING POWER. AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY OR NIGHT THERE IS SOMEWHERE A "HAM" CALLING ANOTHER, THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY... SIGNALLING NEWS... CALLING FOR AID... AND RELAYING MESSAGES TO LOVED ONES....

TWO DAYS AGO... SOMEWHERE IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND... ONE SUCH "HAM" THREW HIS SET'S TRANSMITTER TO "ON" AND BEGAN SEARCHING THE ETHER FOR CONTACT...

...THIS IS W3IVC
THREE-ITEM-UNCLE
-CHARLIE.....
CALLING C.Q...
COME IN SOME
ONE.. PLEASE!



AND... SOMEWHERE FROM
THE INDIAN OCEAN
CAME A FAINT REPLY



AND TWENTY MINUTES
LATER, IN CENTRAL
CITY POLICE HEAD-
QUARTERS

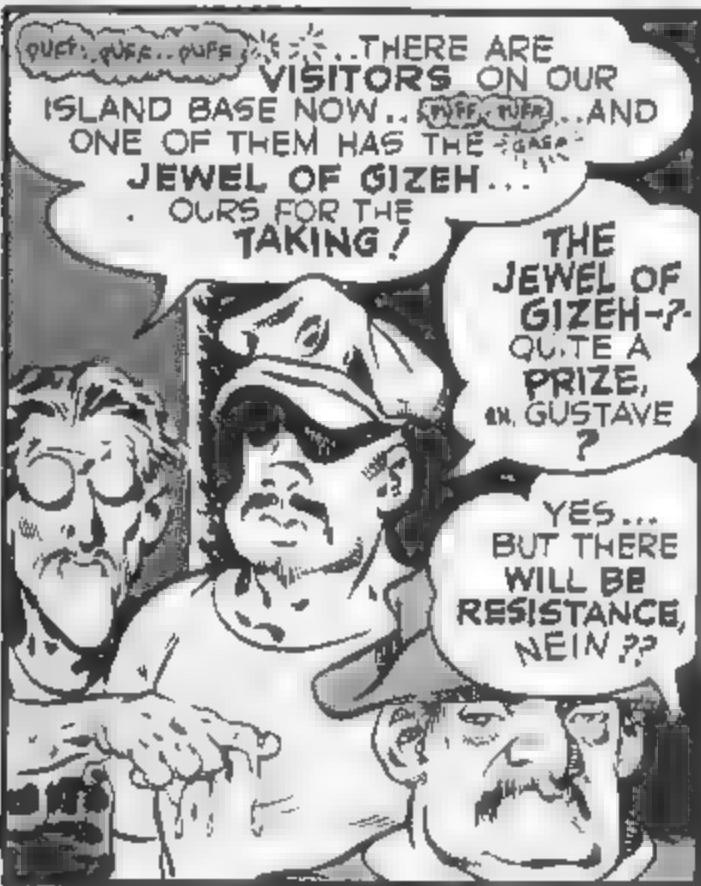
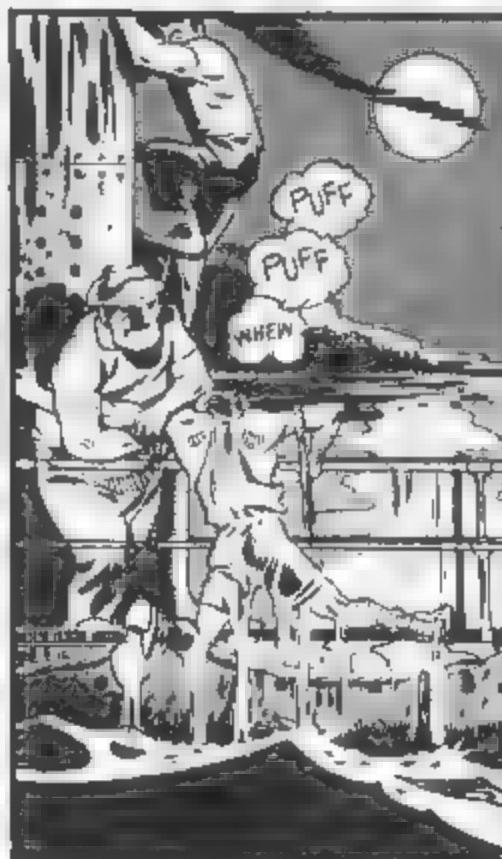


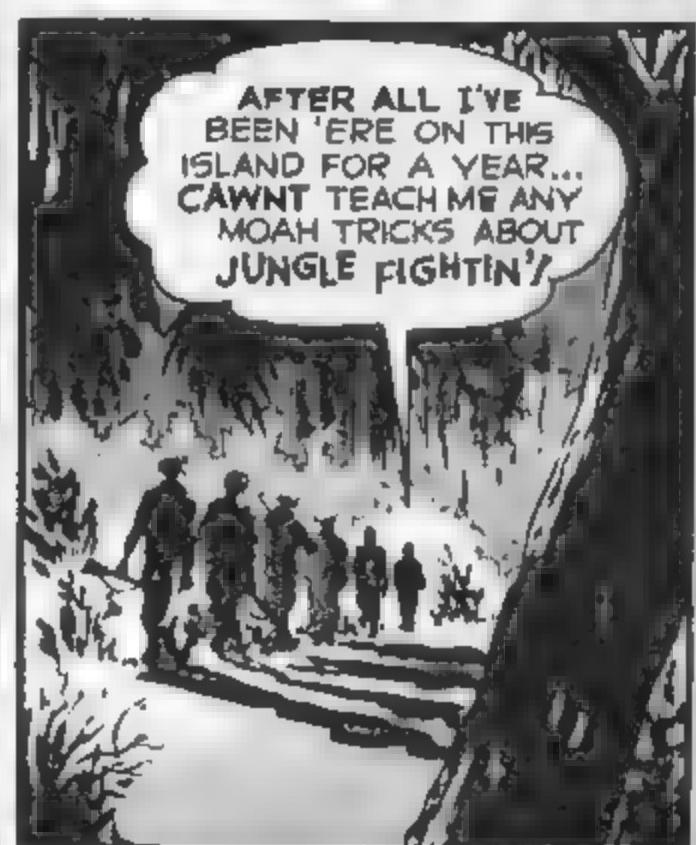
HELLO! YEH.. THIS IS
DOLAN... Y'HEARD
FROM WHO??... THE
SPIRIT... WHERE IS
HE?... THANKS
A MILLION!!



**THE
SPIRIT**
BY
WILL
EISNER

...DAWN OF THE NEXT DAY.. SOMEWHERE IN THE RED SEA









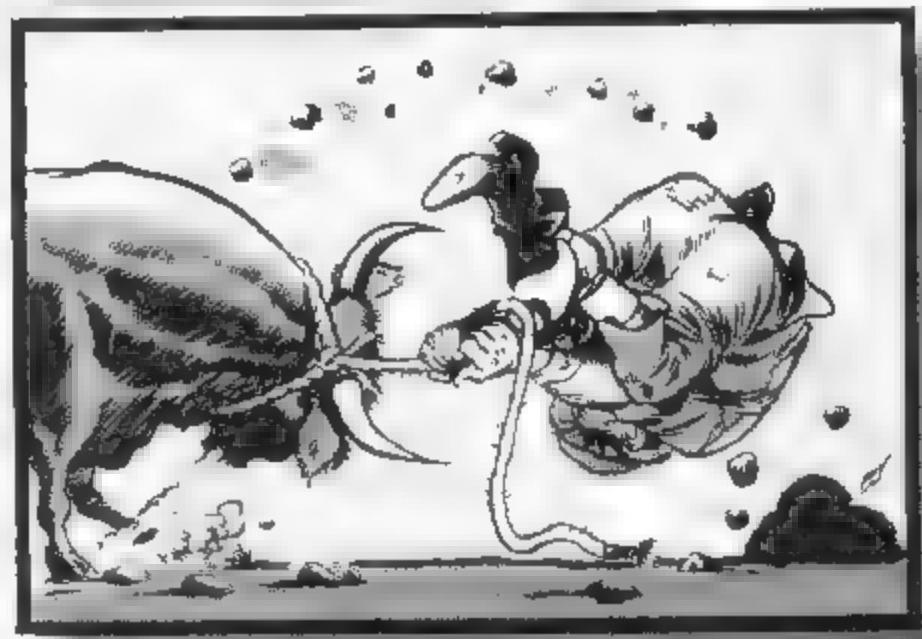
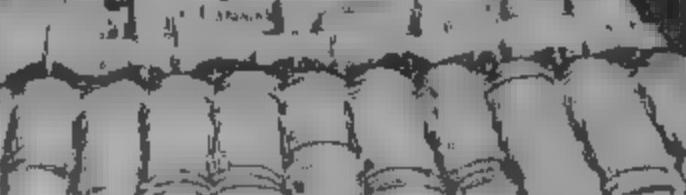
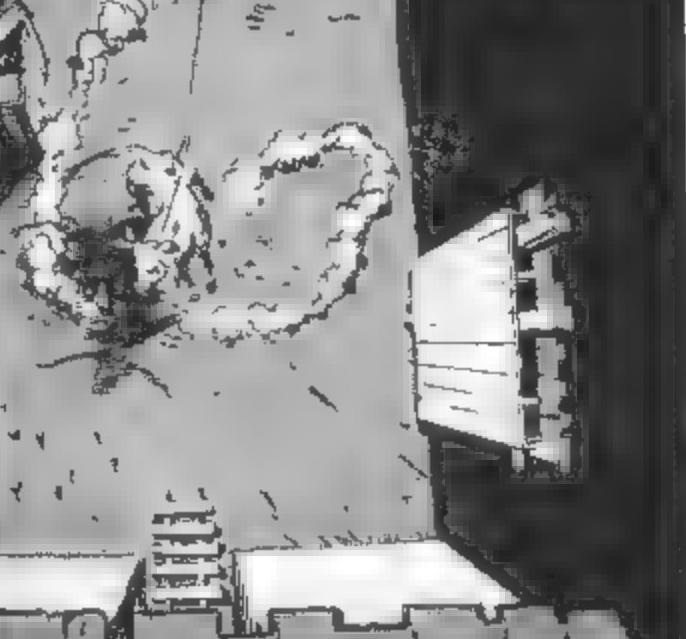




PANCHO DE BOOL

the Spirit

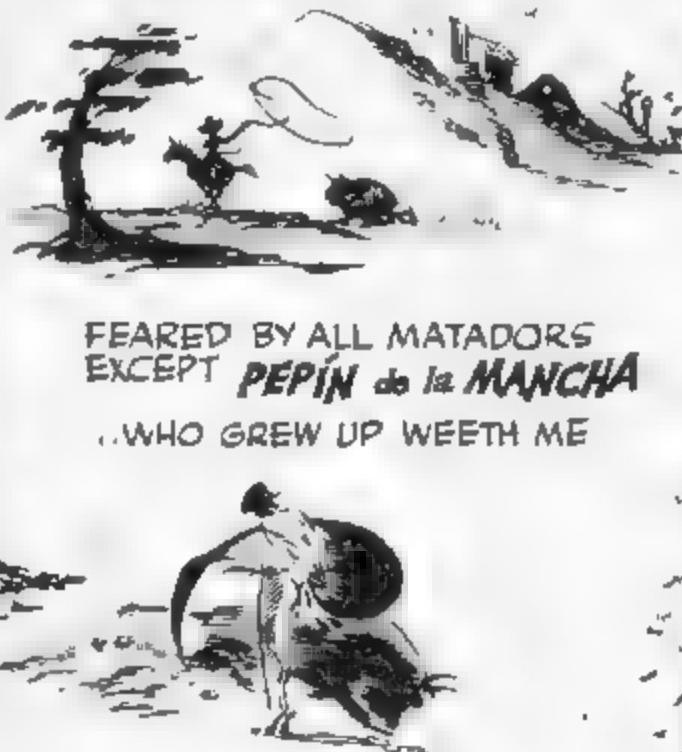
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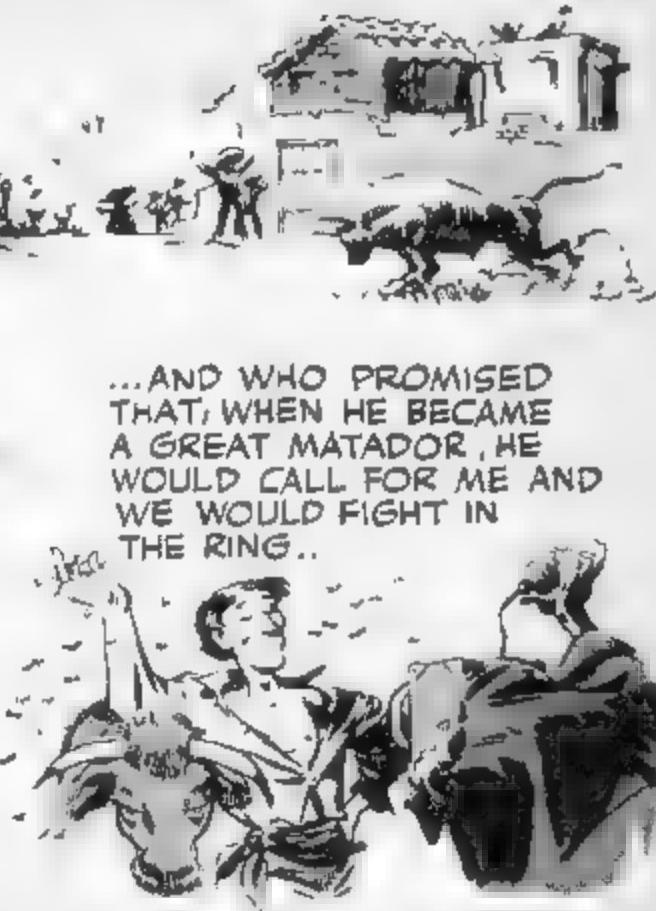
SÍ, AMIGO.
I TALK, BECAUSE
EEN MY BEEG BOOL
HEART LIES A SAD
STORY.. PLEASE, SENOR
BUTCHER, A MOMENTO
WHILE I TELL YOU HOW I
CAME TO THEES SORRY END..

I WAS NOT BORN TO BE EATEN,
SEÑOR.. NO SORR! I WAS ONCE
PANCHO THE BOOL. PANCHO THE
TERRIBLE-TEMPERED. THE KILLER.
THE OOOH. WHAT ELSE THEY
CALLED ME!!



FEARED BY ALL MATADORS
EXCEPT **PEPIN de la MANCHA**
WHO GREW UP WEETH ME

THE PRIDE OF MY TOWN!!
THE HOPE OF THE PROVINCE!



BUT SEÑOR... THEENG'S DO NOT ALWAYS
WORK OUT THE WAY YOUNGSTERS PLAN
THEM... AND PEPIN CAME UNDER THE
EENFLUENCE OF BAD COMPANIONS WHEECH
LED HEEM NOT TO THE PRIZE RING, BUT TO
CENTRAL CITY, U.S.A... IN A BAD, BAD PART
OF TOWN.



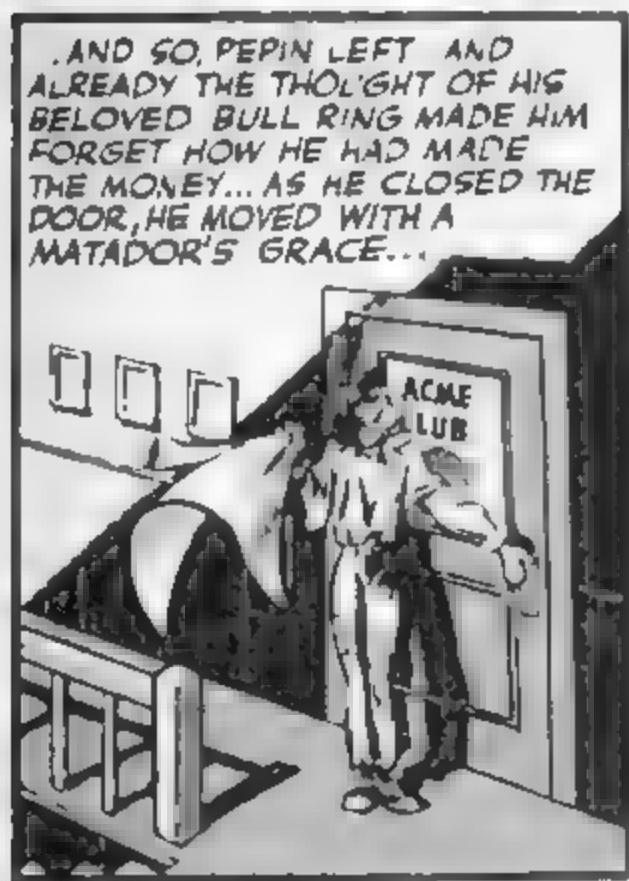
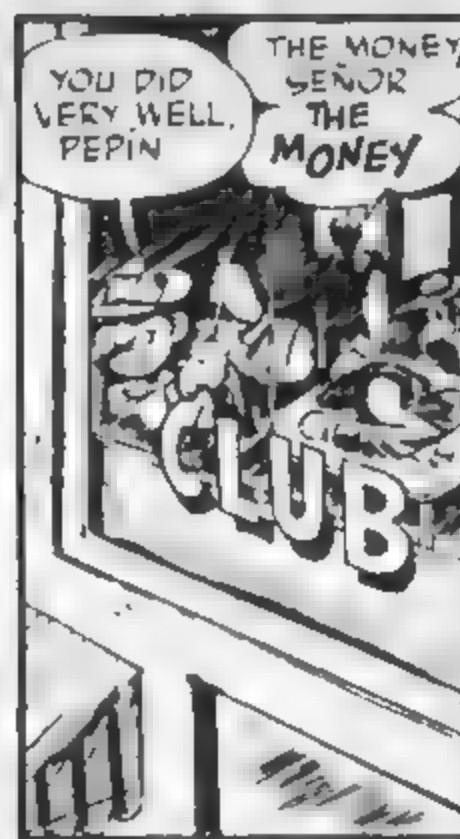
HERE, BROKE AND SEECK, HE DREAMT OF MEHICO,
HEES ABANDONED CAREER... AND WAITED FOR
A BIT OF LUCK THAT WOULD SEND HEEM BACK
HOME ..



THE "LUCK", OR BREAKS, CAME ONE DAY... IN
THEES FORM...



SÍ .. I DO EET
SÍ



SÍ... THAT SPIRITO, HE DEED
MOCH THINKING... AND
WHEN HE ARRIVED AT
POLICE HEADQUARTERS,
HE WAS CARRYING A
COSTUME... SÍ, SEÑOR
BUTCHER... A MATADOR'S
COSTUME...

I'M CONVINCED
THAT PEPIN WAS
NOT ALONE IN
THE KILLING!

BECAUSE THE DAY
BEFORE, HE WAS
BROKE... BUT THAT
MORNING HE BOUGHT
A \$100 TICKET TO
BURROGRANDE,
MEXICO. HE
PROMISED TO PAY
FOR IT THAT NIGHT!

SO! THE
MAN HE KILLED
WAS SMUGGLER
SMEAG, ARCH RIVAL
OF GARCIA BUENO
AND NICKY SMITH
.. BOTH THOSE
GENTLEMEN HAVE
BOUGHT TICKETS
TO BURROGRANDE!
... GET IT NOW??

WELL, SHERLOCK,
WHERE Y'BEEN
? ?

O.K., SPIRIT.
I'LL PLAY
WATSON.
WHY?

BROWSING
ABOUT PEPIN'S
ROOMS,
DOLAN.

SO??

.. AND SEÑOR ... WHEN THE SUN ROSE OVER
BURROGRANDE NEXT MORNING...

AH, WELCOME
HOME TO RANCHO
BUENO! M. GARCIA.
WHO EES THE
GREENGO?

MY NEW
PARTNER,
NEEKY
SMEETH!

HULLO'

FINE SETUP
Y'GOT HERE,
GARCIA... WID DIS
RANCH AS A
RECEIVING POINT,
WE'LL MAKE THE
..IR. LATE SMUGGLER
SMEAG'S OPERATIONS
LOOK TINY!

LIKE I TOL'
YOU, SMEETY!

YES SIR, A NEAT
SETUP... MAYBE I'LL
STICK AROUND FOR
THE WEEK END.
AHEM... NEED
RELAXING...

SURE! STAY FOR A
WEEK.. BY THEN THE
HEAT'LL BE OFF IN
CENTRAL CITY.. THEN
YOU CAN RETURN TO
THE STATES

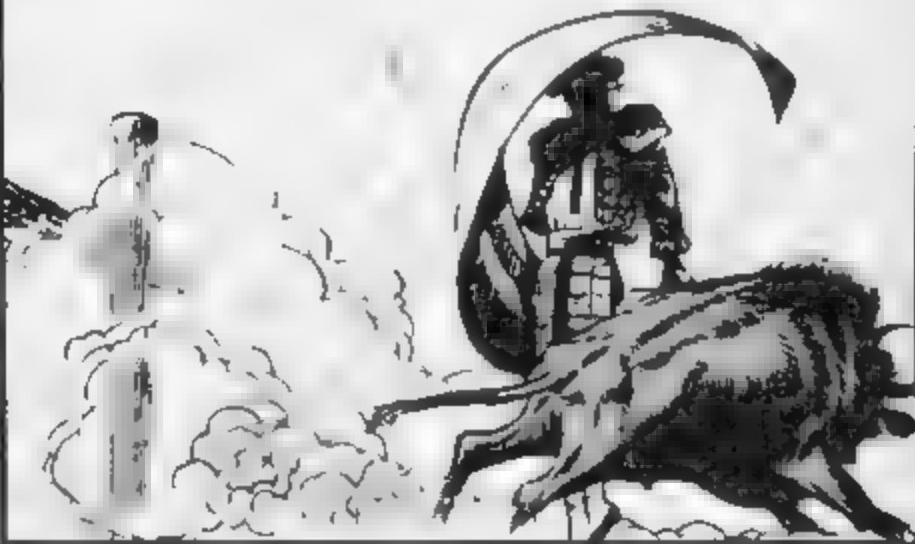
i SÍ!

SÍ... YOU WEEL ENJOY
THE BULLFIGHTS... AND YOU
MUST SEE PEPIN, WHO
LAST NIGHT RETORNED
FROM THE STATES TO
FIGHT HEES FRIEND
PANCHO, WHEECH WE
HAVE BEEN OUR
PENS.

HO HO HO... TWO MORE FRIGHTENED CROOKS YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN ! MADRE MIA, HOW THEY RUSH DOWNSTAIRS TO THE PRACTISE PEN... BUT THEY CAREFULLY DO NOT GET SO CLOSE THAT THE BULLFIGHTER COULD SEE THEM.



...AND SURE ENOUGH.. THERE BEFORE THEIR EYES WAS WHAT APPEARED TO BE HEEM.. AND EEN HEEM'S OWN COSTUME, FOR WHEECH HE WAS WIDELY KNOWN.... AHEM.. EET WAS A LEETLE HARD FOR ME TO SEE ALL THAT WAS GOING ON, BECAUSE EET WAS ME WHO THE YOUNG MATADOR WAS FIGHTING



WHAT A FIGHTER !



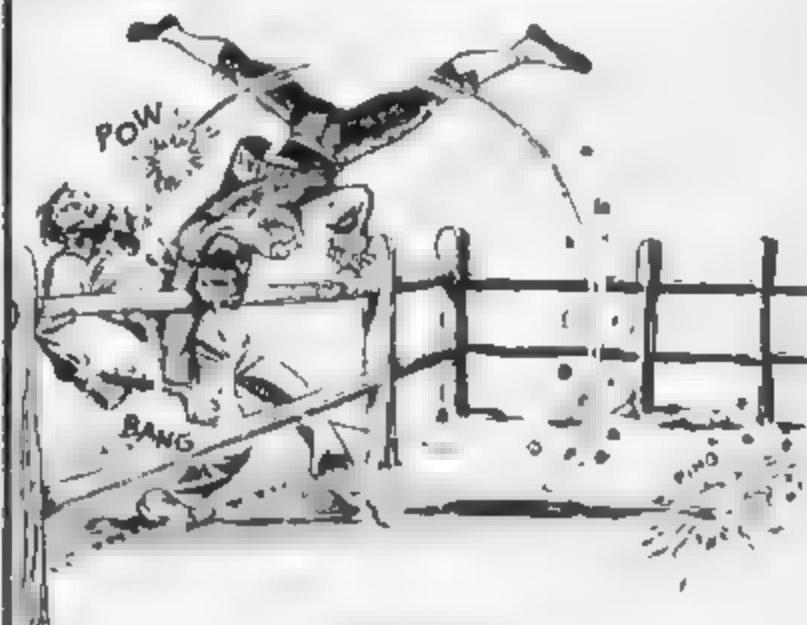
COME OUTTA THERE,
PEPIN. THOUGHT YOU'D
ESCAPE US BY PLAY N'
POSSUM EH? DIS TIME
I WON'T MISS...



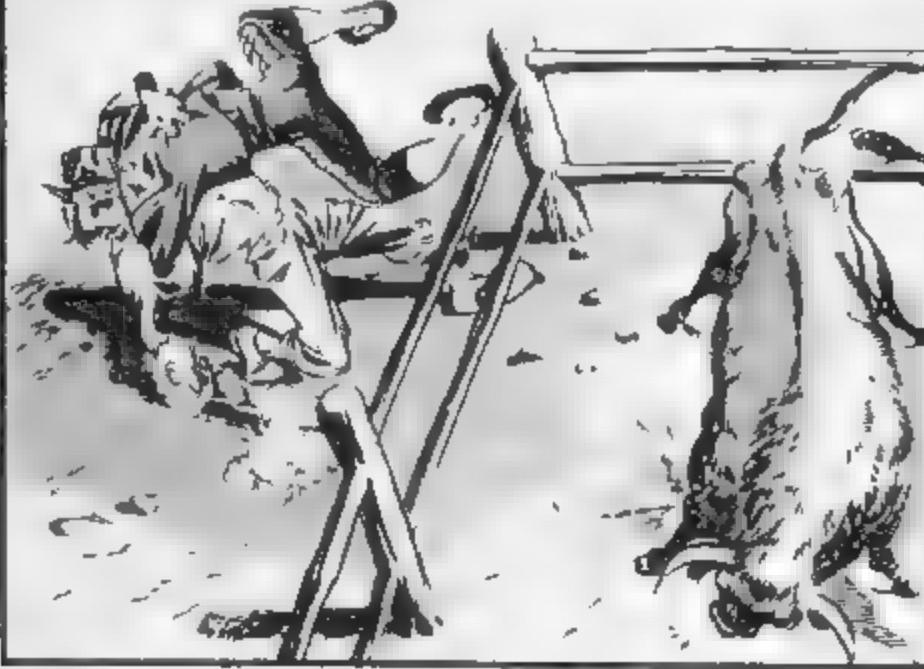
WELL WELL WELL..
NICKY SMITH.. DIDN'T
THINK THIS GAG'D
WORK SO QUICKLY...
OR SO
EASILY !!



..OF COURSE YOU KNEW EET ALL THE
TIME... THAT EET WAS REALLY EL SPIRITO,
THE SPIRIT, DRESSED UP? NATURALLY, I
WAS NOT GONNA BE SQUEALERS AND
TEEP 'EM OFF! SO... I PLAY ALONG WEETH
THE GAG.



CARAMBA BULLETS BEGIN TO FLY AROUND
LIKE FLIES AND I AM CATCH ONE EEN THE LEG.
BOY, AM I MAD!! THEES MEANS NO MORE
FIGHTING FOR ME!



I AM LOOSE MY TEMPER I AM LOOK AROUND
FOR SOMEBODY TO GORE CARAMBA I AM
ONE HOT TAMALE!!



...ALL AT ONCE I AM SEE THAT FAT PEEG
GARCIA...HE'S SNEAKING OP ONNA SPIRITO...



THEES-EES JOOS' WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR...



..HA, SEÑOR WHEN I FEENISH
WEETH THAT ONE, HE'S DEAD.



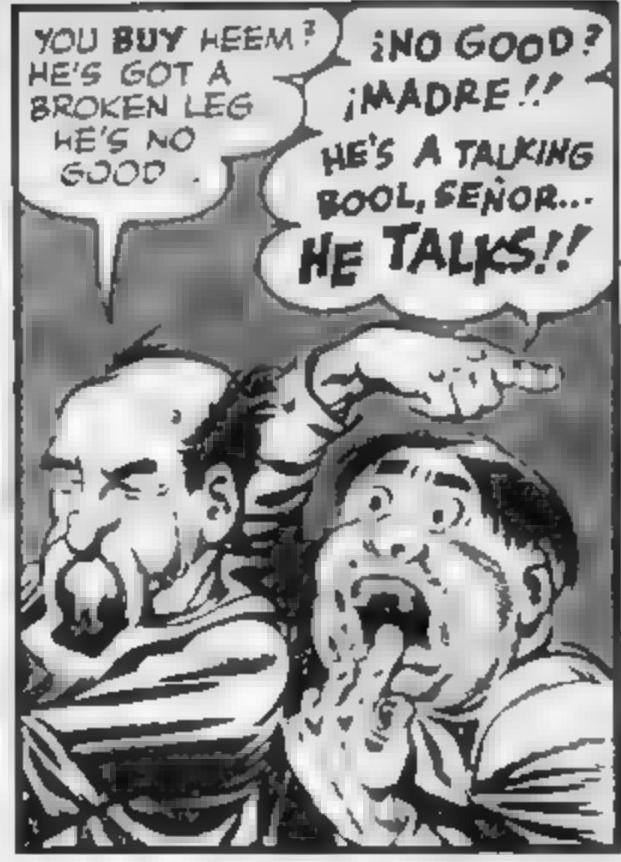
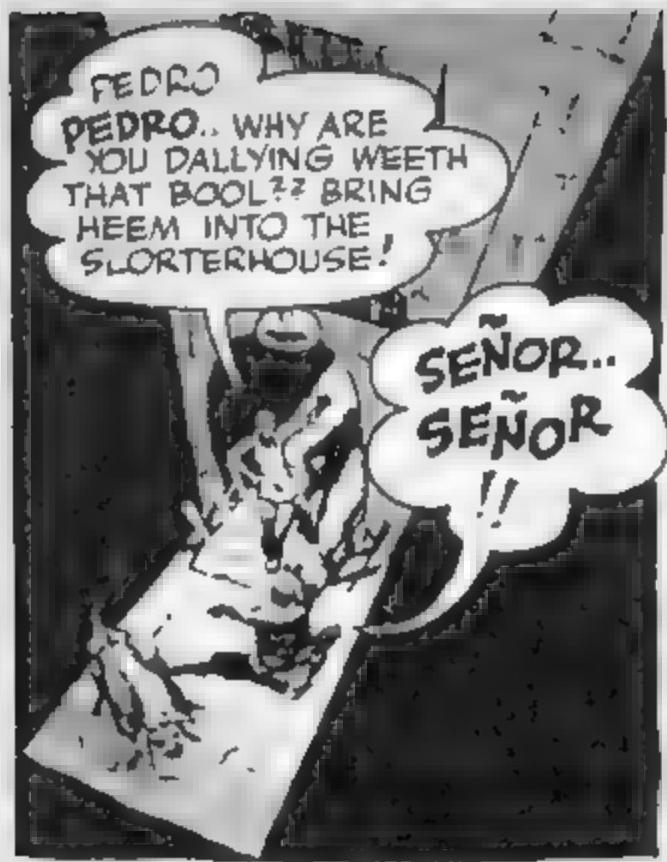
AN WHEN I LOOK AROUND, THE SPIRIT HE'S TALKING TO THE
COPS HE DOES NOT EVEN NOTICE I'M BEING TAKEN AWAY TO THE
BUTCHER'S

SÍ, SEÑOR
SPIRIT COMMISSIONER
DOLAN HAS WIRED US..
CAN WE HELP?

THANKS..I'VE GOT
MY MAN NOW ALL I
NEED ARE THE
EXTRADITION
PAPERS FOR
SMITH....

EASILY DONE
SEÑOR..
AS FOR
GARCIA, WE'LL
CARE FOR
WHAT'S LEFT OF
HIM





CHRISTMAS

BY WILL EISNER



nd on this day,
those who all the year
are grasping, and seek riches
from others,
pause for one brief moment
and become kind, human,
generous beings...
all that dreamers believe
men should be...

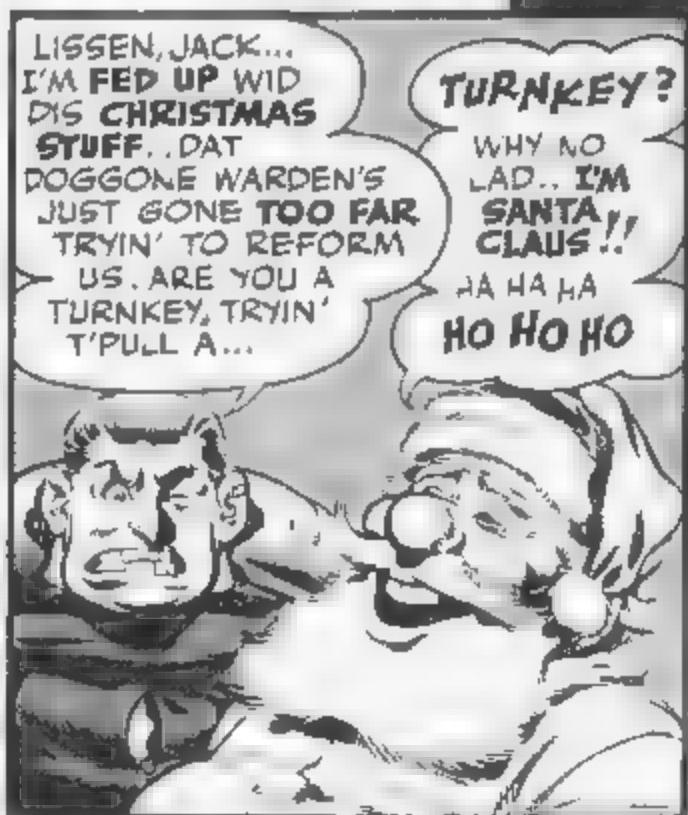


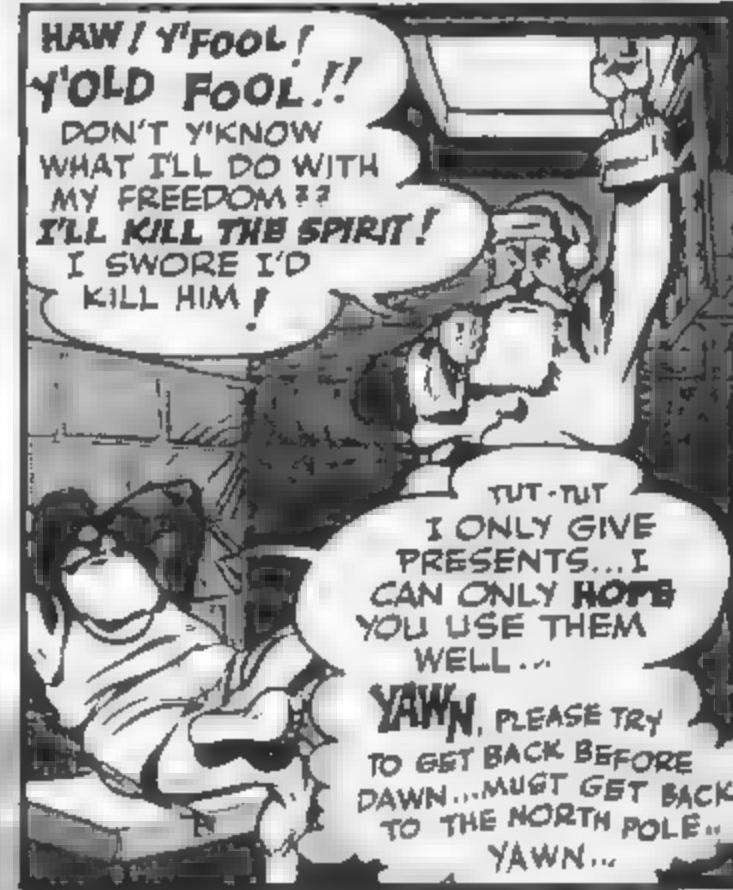
r so the legend runs...

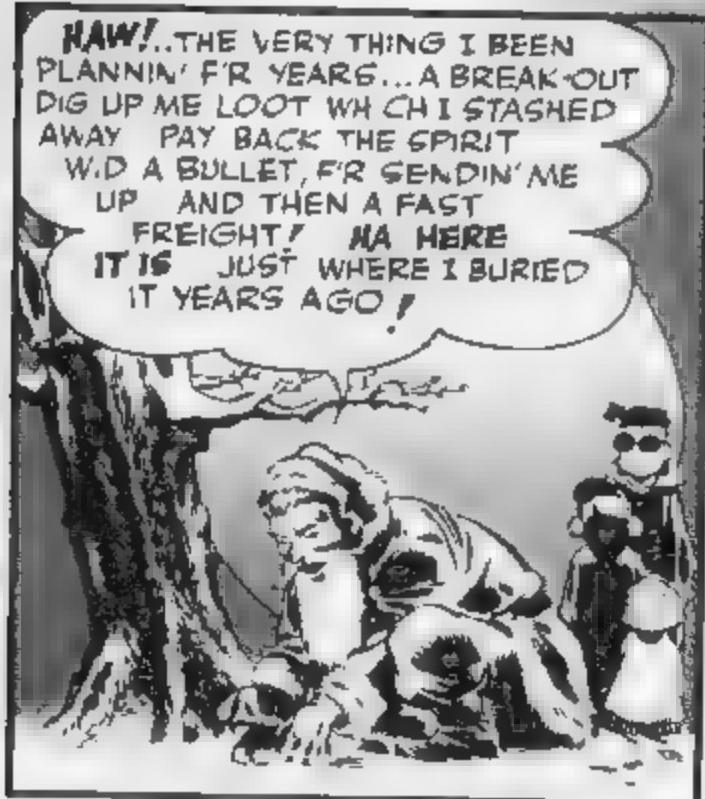


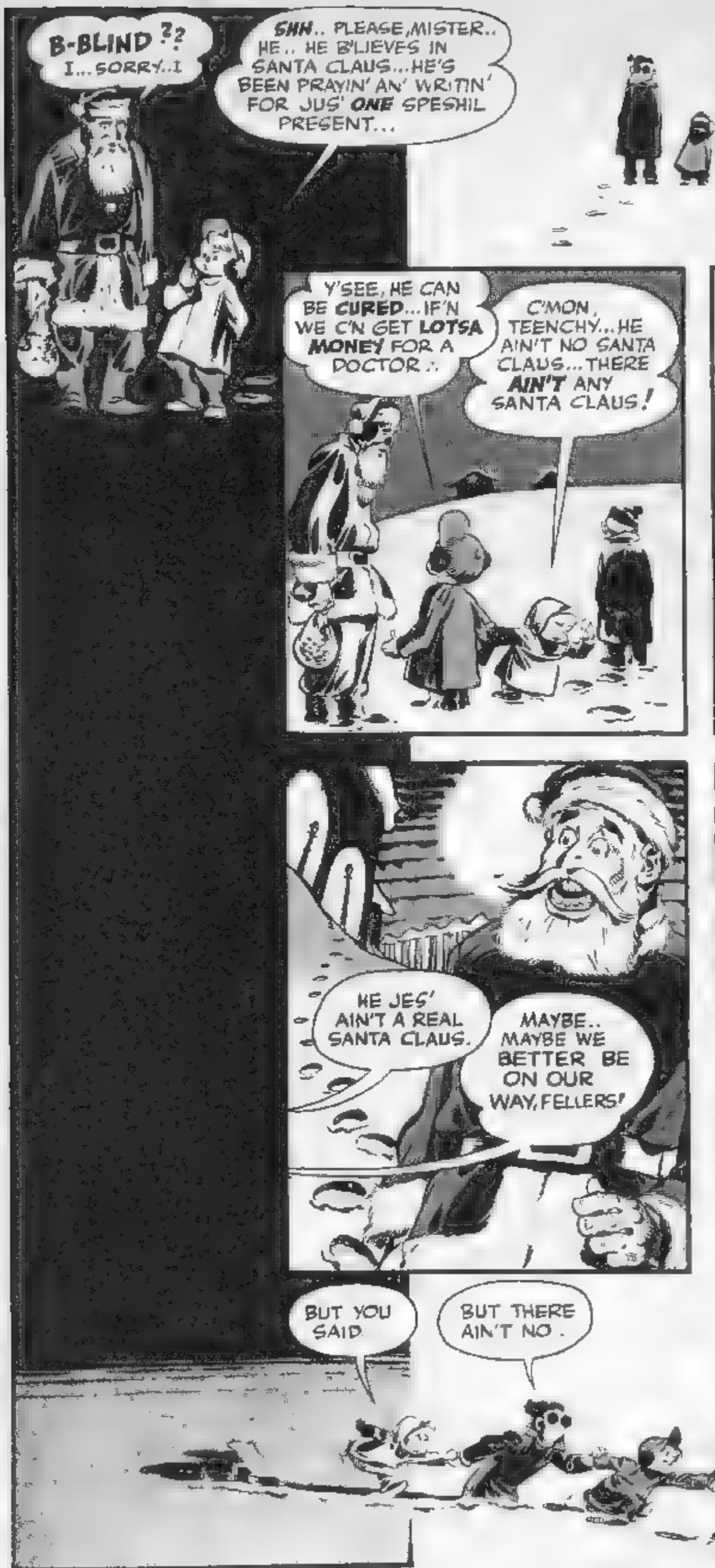
And so it came to pass
one year, not too long ago,
a heavy snow fell upon the land...
and from Central City in the south
to State Prison in the north
the little lights twinkled on
and it was Christmas.













WHAT'S SANTA CLAUS DOIN' NOW?

HE JES' WENT IN TO SEE ONE O' HIS DWARFS WHO IS IN CHARGE O' FIX N UP PEOPLE



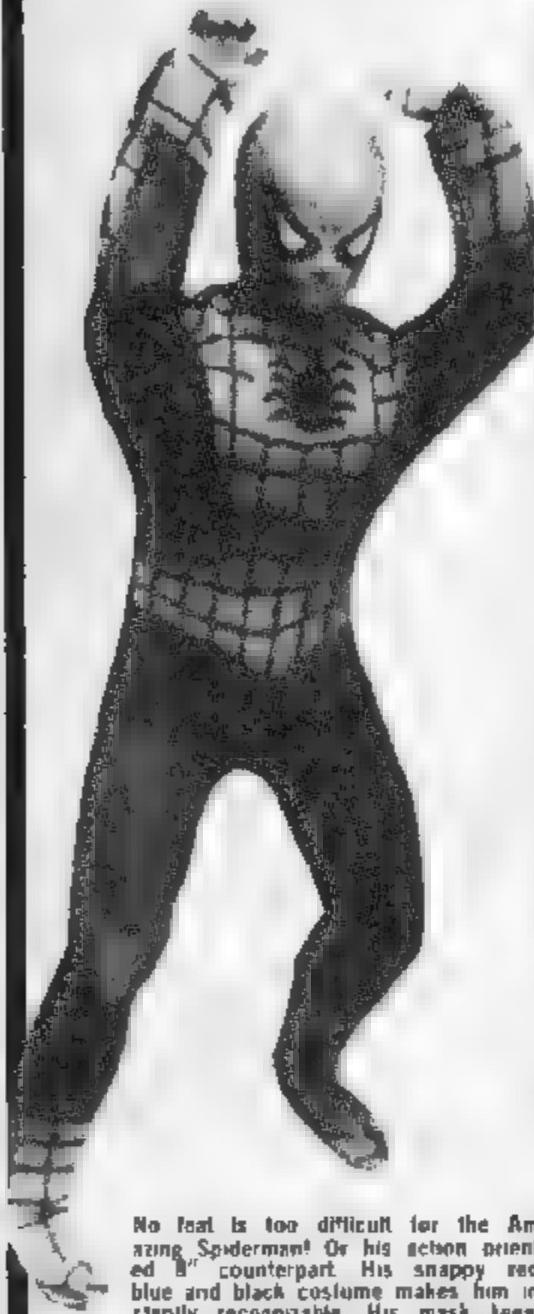
Merry Christmas
ONE AND ALL!



SUPER FLEXIBLE! THEY BEND! THEY TWIST! 8 INCH SUPER ACTION FIGURES

Join Spiderman and the other superheroes and villains! Amass an 8" high army, battle dressed and ready for action. Anyway you can move, they can move. They twist at neck and waist. Bend at shoulders, elbows, wrists, hips, knees and ankles. Super-flexible. Made of durable flesh colored plastic. Authentic, brightly colored costumes. Plastic accessories. Make your own animated films. Create a Spiderman comic. Super models that can't be beat!

SPIDERMAN



TARZAN



An 8" colossus, dressed in the traditional leopard spotted costume of the Lord of the Jungle. With his knife unsheathed he's ready for jungle action. Acrobatics are mere monkey-play for the flexible figure! #2464/\$3.98

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Batman's right hand man... the Boy Wonder A junior superhero poised for adventure. His green costume with yellow cape and red vest lets you know the masked figure is really Robin. An 8" super-bendable hero! #2458/\$3.98

THE RIDDLER



Batman's arch enemy! His riddles are deadly. His punch lines carry a wallop. Who is the 8" man behind a puzzle mask? Why is his green and black costume covered with question marks? Guess! His mask stays on! #2471/\$4.49

THE JOKER



Why is this man smiling? Has he just foisted The Batman? Or is he secretly contemplating another hideous joke? His purple tuxedo and green hair make him hard to miss. He's a flexible 8" figure you love to hate! #2465/\$4.49

MR. MXYZPTLK



Superman's enemy. A harbinger of mischief from another dimension. How can one fubby figure be so bad? Don't ask! If you see his purple and gold figure, run! 8" high. Flexible as a tongue must be to say his name! #2472/\$4.49

THE PENGUIN



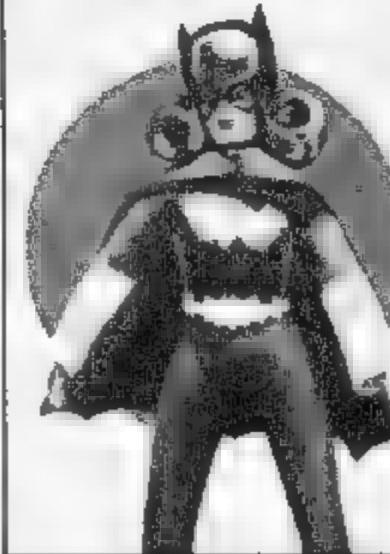
A rotund figure in white tie and tails, his monocle and top hat give him away. He's Batman's long nosed enemy, that dapper dastard. The Penguin 8" of trickery. A crook who's run completely a-fowl of the law! #2470/\$4.49

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CAT WOMAN



Her golden eyes glow through her red mask. Her tail twitches as she catches the scent. It's Batman. He's her prey. She stalks forward in her blue costume. And pounces. 8" tall. Realistic feline action! #24124/\$4.75

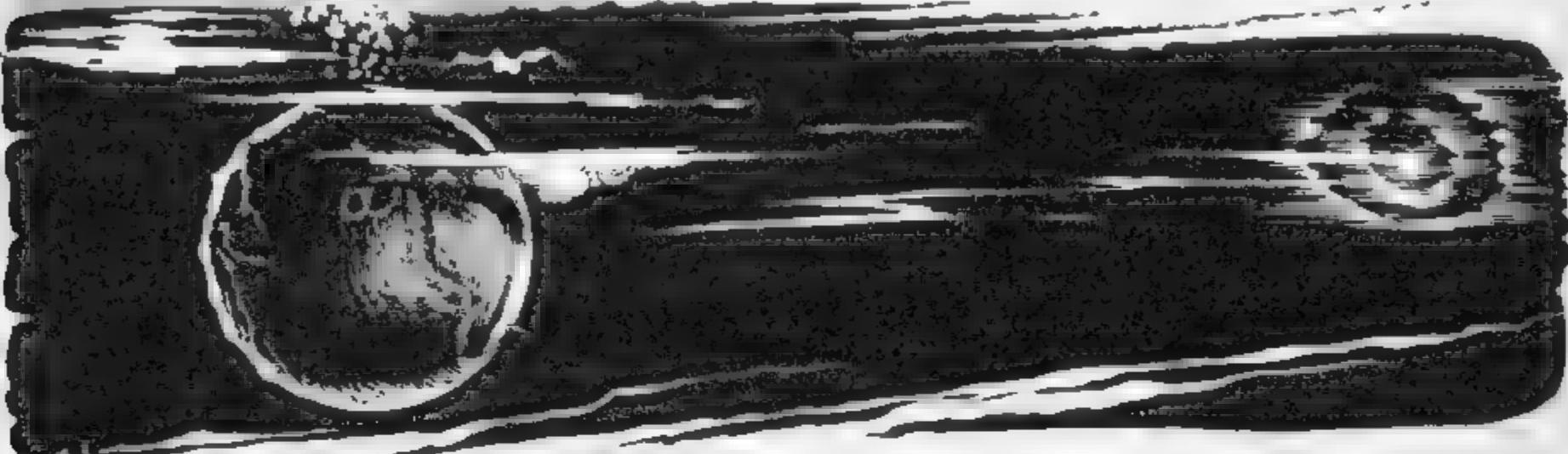
SUPER ACTION GALS

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To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine
for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.



AND NOW IT IS DECEMBER.. AND THE EARTH HAVING SWUNG IN ITS ORBIT TO THE FARDEST EXTREME ALLOWED BY CENTRIFUGAL FORCE (.. which enslaves it to the sun) ... COOLS AS IT BRUSHES THE CHILL OF OUTER SPACE...



NOW THERE GATHER OVER THE COUNTRIES NEAREST THE NORTH POLE GREAT CLOUDS OF STEAM THAT HAVE COME IN VAST FIELDS OF EVAPORATED MOISTURE FROM THE WET TROPICS... **AND A MIGHTY SEASONAL CHANGE OCCURS!**

THE STEAMY MASS STRIKES THE SOLID-COLD AIR AND LO!.. THE DROPLETS CRYSTALIZE AND FLOAT EARTHWARD....



THERE, THE INHABITANTS (hardy souls that they are) ARE READY!!!

...FOR THEY HAVE HARNESSSED THE WINDS AND THE SUN AND THE RAIN....

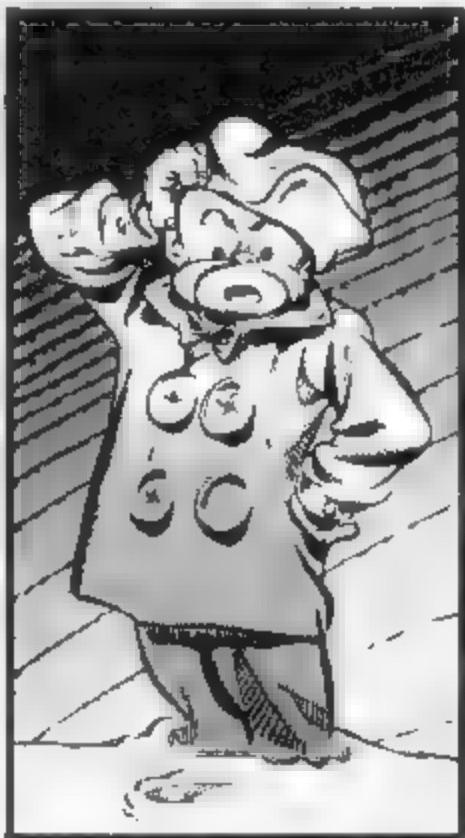
AYE, RARE INDEED IS THE NATURAL PHENOMENON THAT MAN HAS NOT LEARNED TO USE...

SNOW

THE

BY
Will Eisner

SPLAT



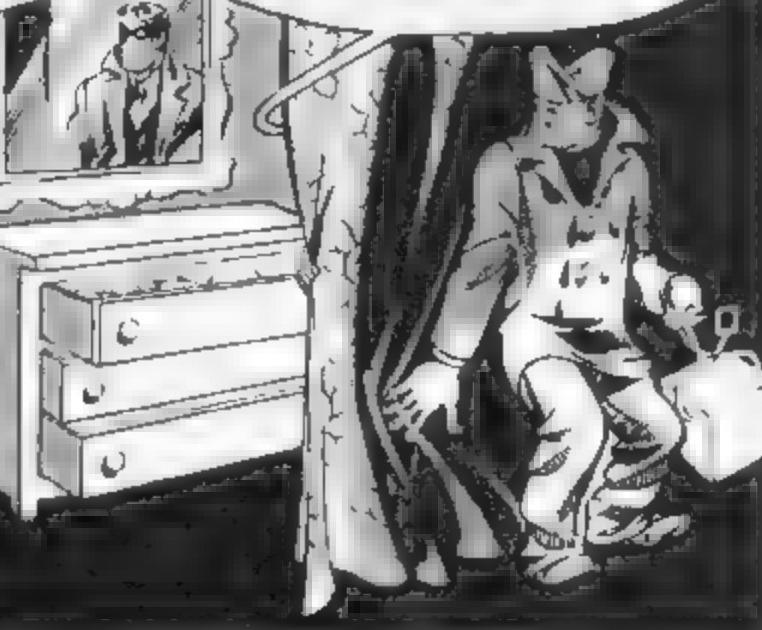


AND SO AS THE EVENING
CHILL SETS UPON CENTRAL
CITY...



ROGERS! HAS THAT
ICE COME?.. THE LINER
LEAVES IN AN HOUR,
AND MY CHEMICALS NEED.
HEX.. WHO ARE
YOU?

OHO!.. SO THAT'S HOW IT'S
DONE. GOLDBRICK SELLS YOU
BLOCKS OF ICE FROZEN AROUND
DIAMONDS.. YOU USE THE ICE TO
PACK CHEMICALS.. THAT'D
FOOL ANY CUSTOMS



FUNNY, DAT'S
JUST WOT I BEEN
THINKIN', TOO!



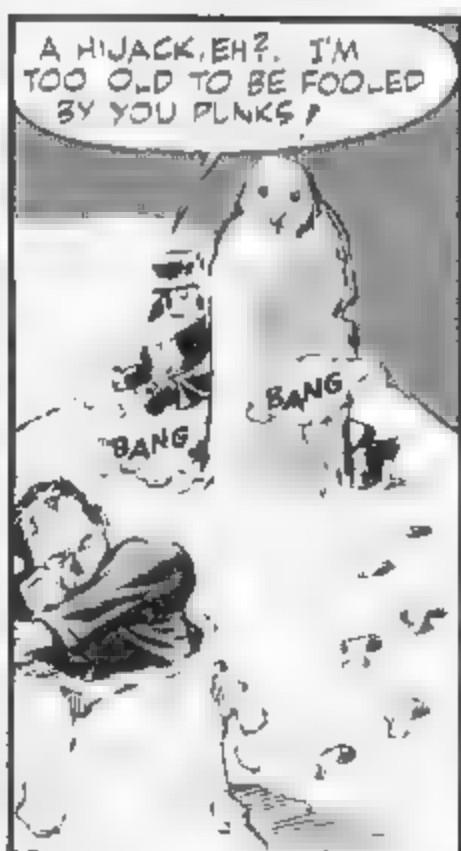
AND SO

WHAT'S HAPPENED
TO "PICK"? IT'S ALMOST
SAILING TIME AND WE
STILL GOT THIS LOAD
TO DELIVER TO
TARIF.

WE'RE NOT DELIVERING
THESE ROCKS TO TARIF.
I INSTRUCTED PICK TO
KNOCK OFF TARIF. WE'RE
GOING TO BOARD THAT
SHIP INSTEAD OF HIM...

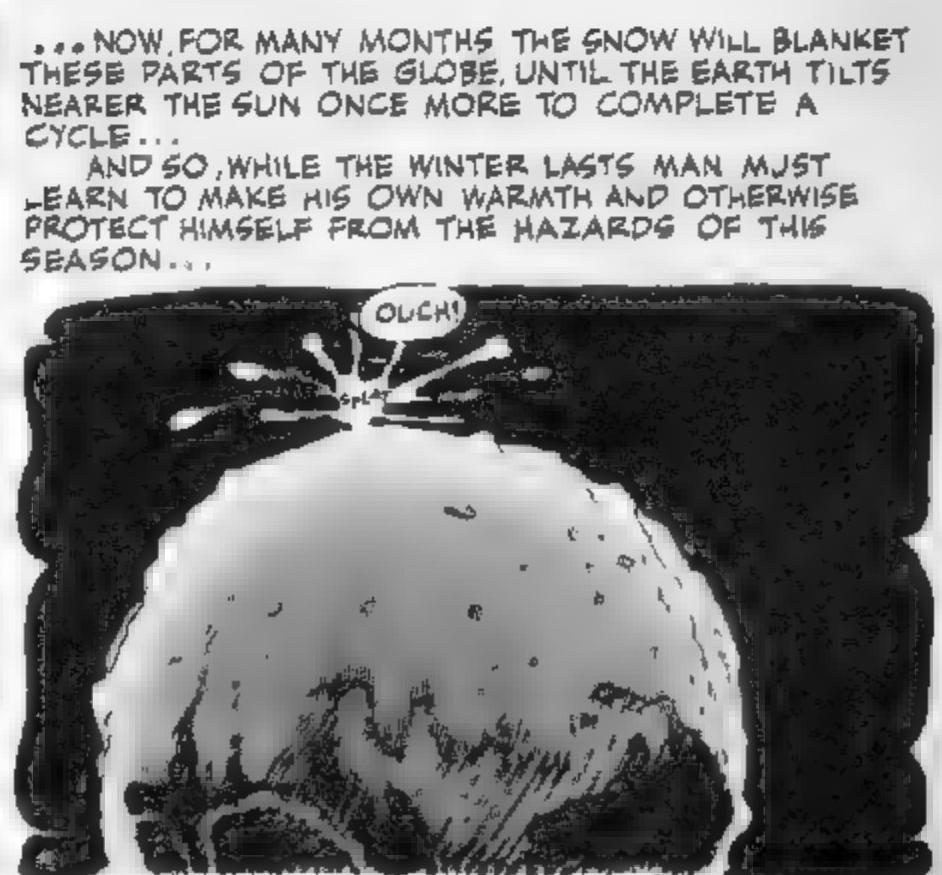
GEE, THAT'S
A GREAT IDEA
WHAT ABOUT
PICK?

HE WAS SUPPOSED
TO PHONE ME BY
NOW. GUESS
HE'S DELAYED
C'MON!





AND SO...



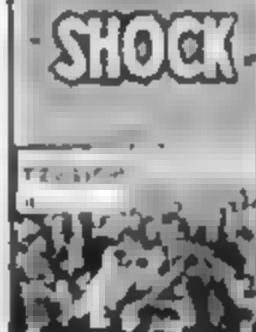
FULL-COLOR REPRINTS OF EC COMICS!

To comics fans and aficionados of excellent graphic tales of classic horror, the EC logo shines. In the annals of comics memorabilia, work done by the EC staff is revered above that done by most of their contemporary competitors. EC comics! Wally Wood, Frank Frazetta, Jack Davis, Al Williamson, Joe Orlando, Jack Kamen, John Severin, Reed Crandall, Graham Ingles, George Kamen, Bernie Krigstein, Johnny Craig, Al Feldstein. These names made EC comics the greatest in color graphic horror! These are the artists whose work is reprinted in these 32 page comic books. Now you can get reprints of the originals, exactly as they appeared 20 years ago. Complete issues of TWO FISTED TALES, WEIRD SCIENCE, WEIRD FANTASY, VAULT OF HORROR, CRYPT OF TERROR, HAUNT OF FEAR, SHOCK SUSPENSTORIES, CRIME SUSPENSTORIES. Great comics, just the way you remember them. Just as good as you heard they were. Just as good as you hoped they'd be. Dr. Frederick Wortham's "Seduction of the Innocent" heralded the end of EC comics. A whole generation has grown up minus the ministrations of the Old Witch, the Vault Keeper and the Crypt Keeper. Now is your chance to enjoy what you've missed at a price you can afford. Quality reprints. Quality comics! 7 x 10! In full color! Fantastic art! Spectacular stories! You've never seen anything like 'em!



WEIRD SCIENCE #12 Thrilling shockers "Dream of Doom" by Wally Wood, George Kamen's "Experiment in Death," "Lost in the Microcosm," a Harvey Kurtzman story, "Things from Outer Space" by Al Feldstein & Feldstein cover. Fine EC format. #21186 \$1.25

**COMING SOON!
THE NEXT EC
REPRINT ISSUE!
WEIRD FANTASY
#3 FEATURING
WOOD, KAMEN,
ELKIN AND
CRANDALL**



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Crypt of Terror #1 Features "Success Story" by Joe Orlando, "Upon Reflection" by Jack Davis plus a Davis cover, "Bind Aleys" by George Evans, featured in the item "Tales from the Crypt" and "Tatter Up" by Graham Ingles. #21285 \$2.00



WEIRD SCIENCE #15 Wally Wood leads off with his sixth tale, "Martians," followed by Jack Kamen's "Miscellaneous," Orlando's "Bum Sear" and Al Williamson's "Captivity." Also, a biography of artist Orlando. #21038 \$1.75



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WEIRD FANTASY #13 Two incredible tales by Wally Wood highlight this incredible issue. "Home to Stay" tells of an alien invasion's last night. "The End" recounts man's last days. Also work by Joe Orlando and Jack Kamen. #21095 \$1.50



CRIME SUSPENSTORIES #25. Gripping tales of criminal terror. Three for the money by Jack Kamen, "Dog Food" by Reed Crandall, plus "Key Chain" by Berney Evans and "The Squealer" by artist G. Evans. #21115 \$1.50



VAULT OF HORROR #26. "Two of a Kind" by Johnny Craig, "Half Way Horrible" by Jack Kamen, Graham Ingles' "Hood, Line and Sinker" and a special cover story by Jack Davis entitled "Giant in Concrete." Great! #21120 \$1.50



SHOCK SUSPENSTORIES #6 Dead Right by Ramon Orlando's "Not So Tough," Sugar and Spice by Ghostly and one of the most important comic stories ever, Wood's "Under Cover" & Shockers! #21122 \$1.50



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HAUNT OF FEAR #23 Awful tales of EC terror! Evans' "No Silver Atoll," Davis' "Clubbing," Hansen and Grotel's "by Ramon Ingles contributes "CreepCourse" plus "Ghastly" cover. A must! #21164 \$1.25

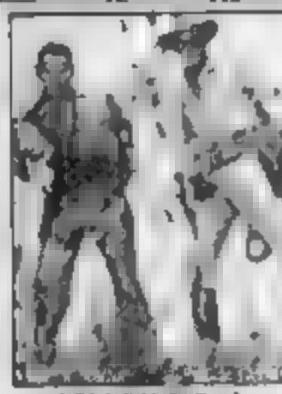
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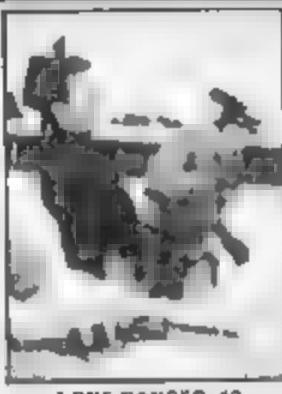


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The Lone Ranger and his faithful Indian companion Tonto ride again in a set of three exciting jigsaw puzzles. There are 700 big pieces in these full color sets, each one a different photograph of the Western hero in action.



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PLANET OF THE APES JIGSAW PUZZLES FULL COLOR! OVER 100 PIECES! BIG 10" x 14"



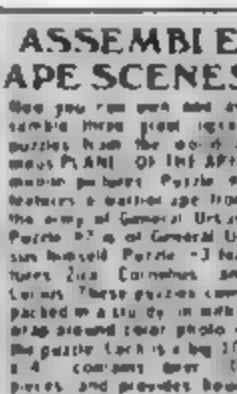
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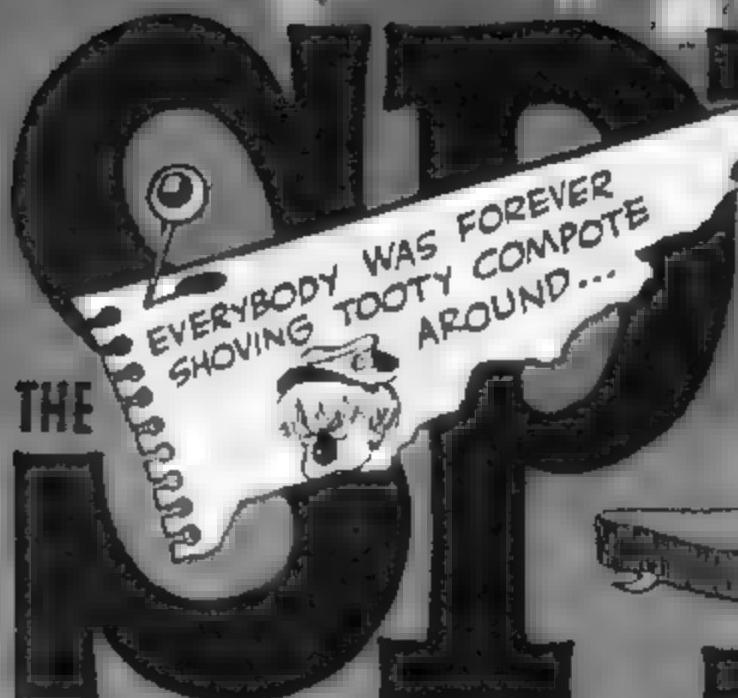


Puzzle #3
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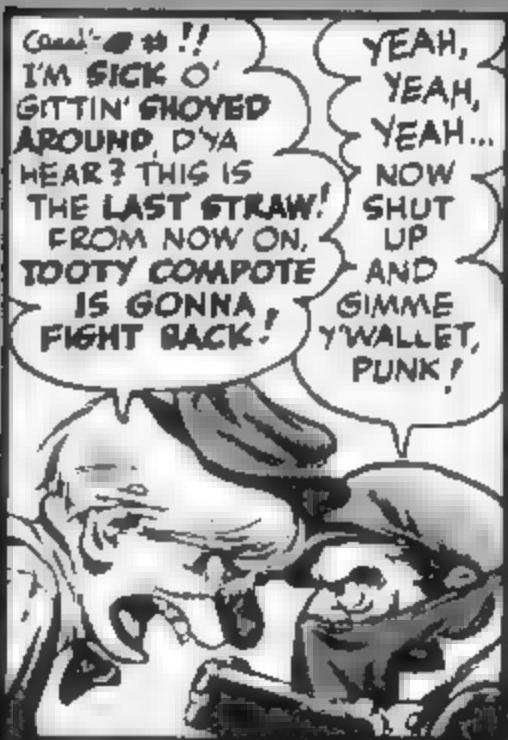


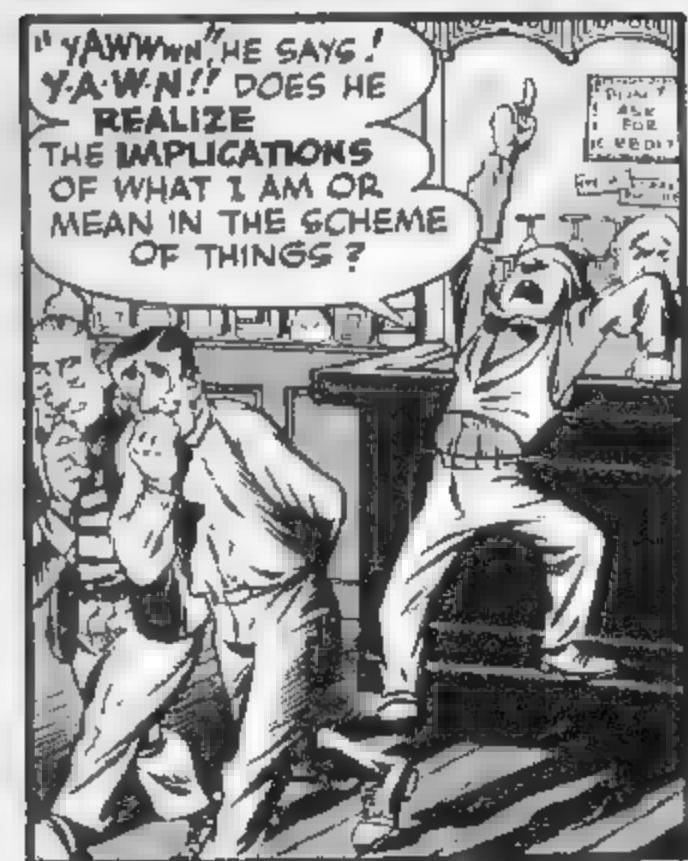
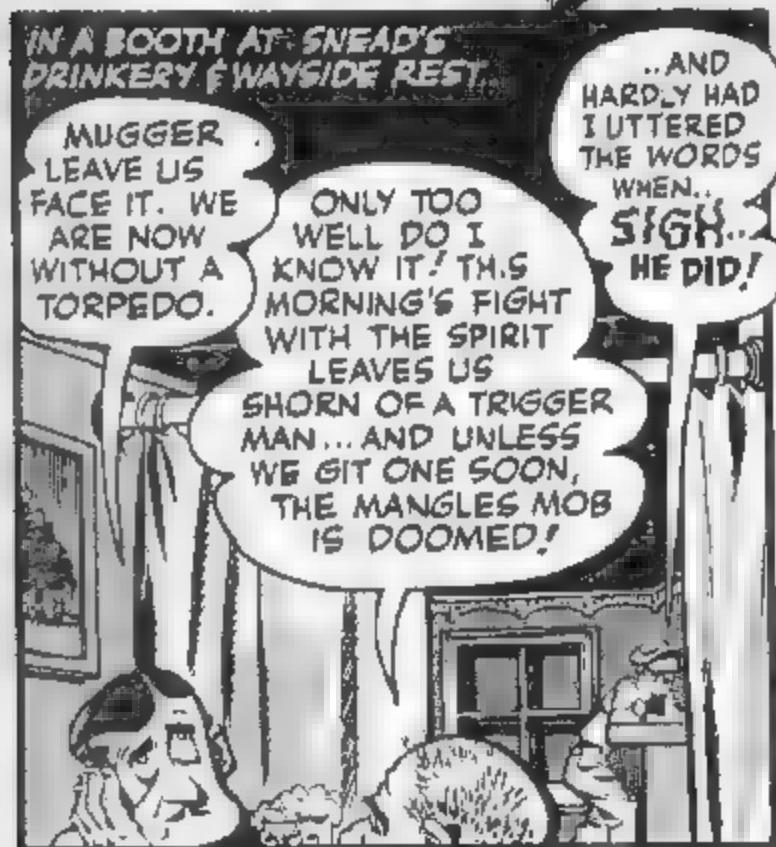
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Do you have time to assemble these great jigsaw puzzles from the world famous PLANET OF THE APES? Features pictures of Apes in various scenes. Puzzle #1 features a battle scene from the army of General Ursus. Puzzle #2 is General Ursus himself. Puzzle #3 features Zira, Cornelius, and Lorna. These puzzles come packed in a sturdy box with a strap around cover photo of the puzzle. Each is a big 10" x 4" complete over 100 pieces and provides hours of challenge.

TOOTY COMPOTE



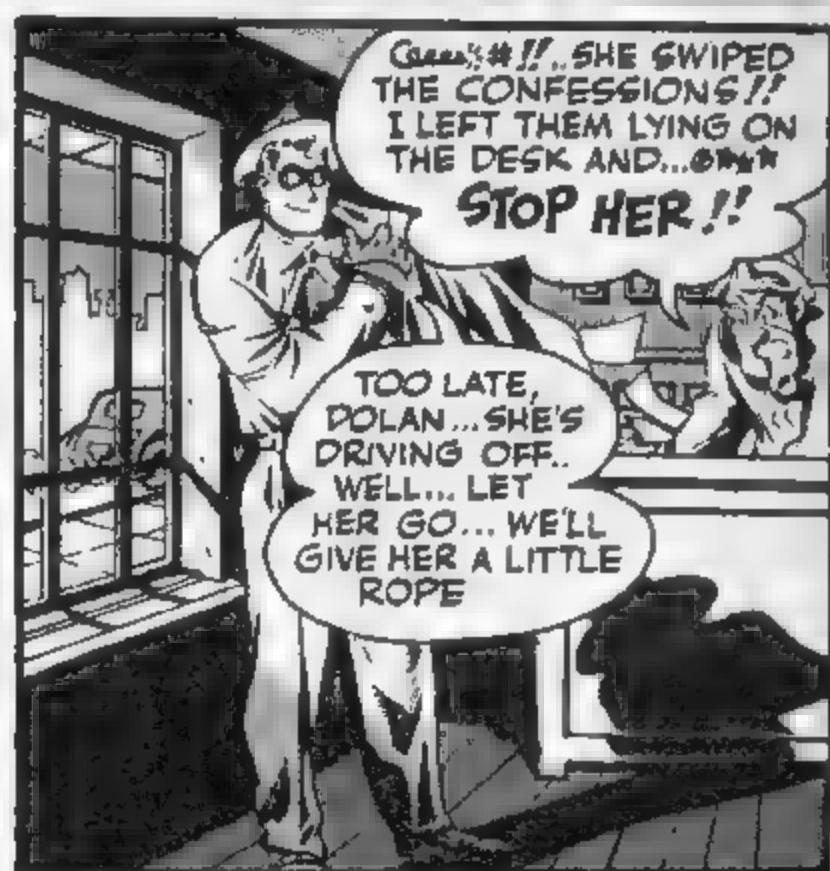
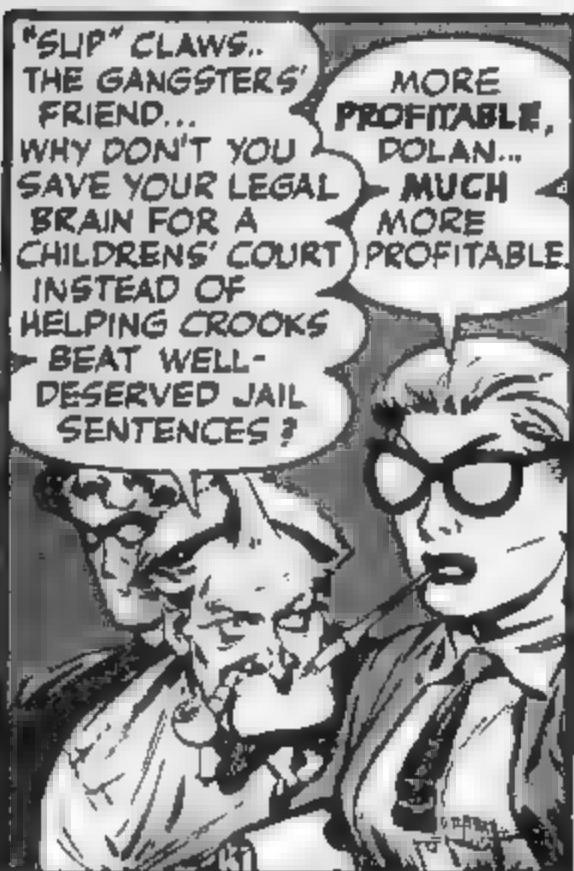
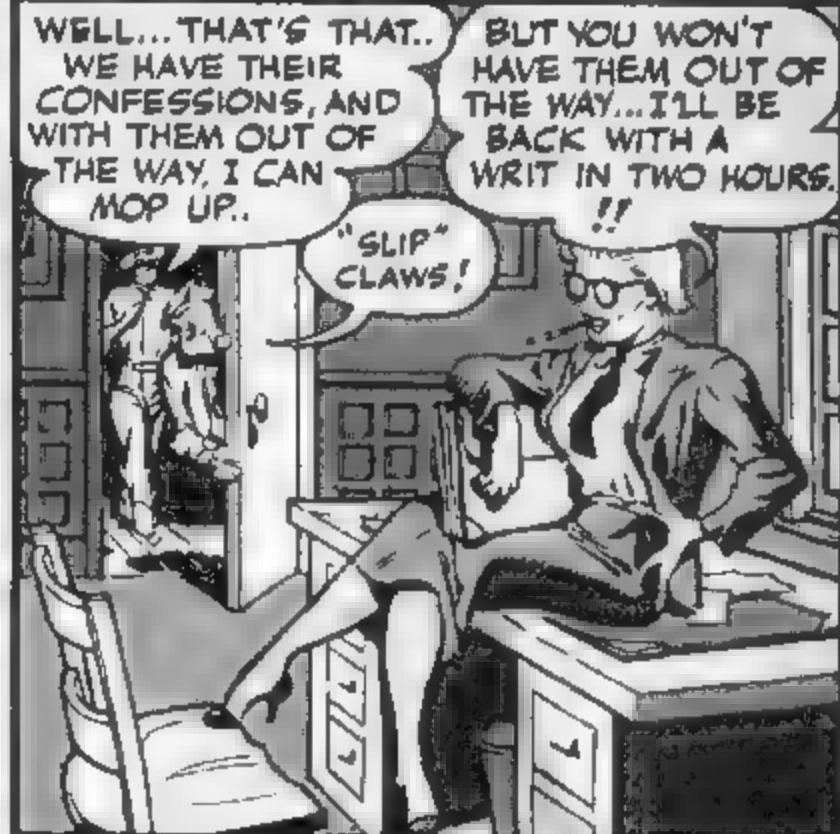
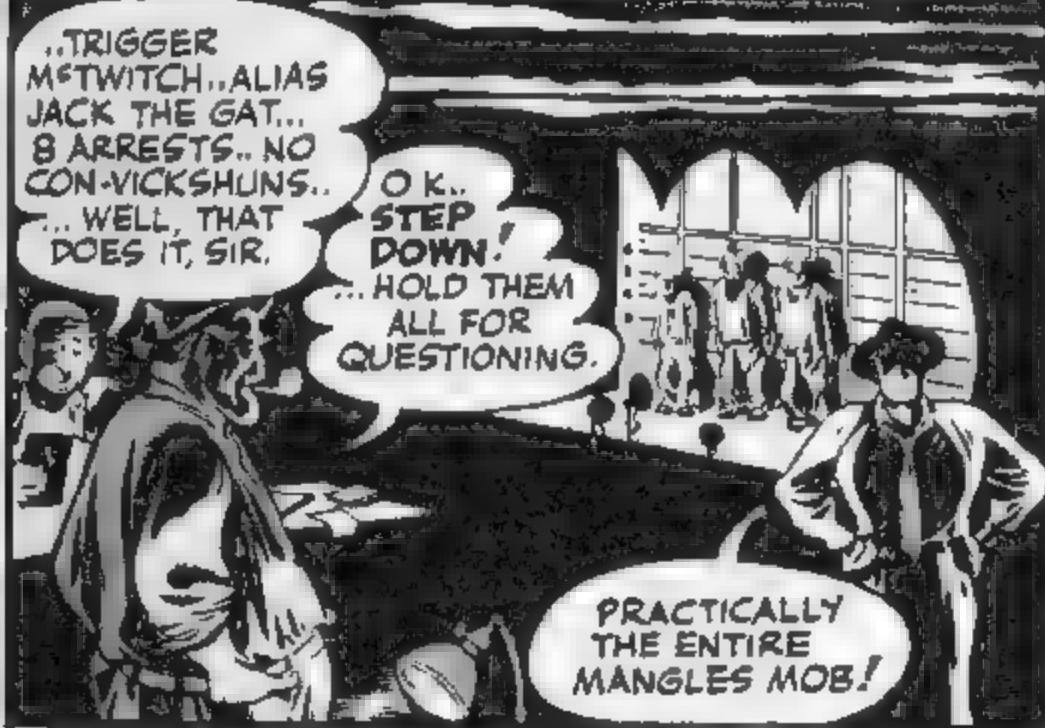
BY WILL EISNER





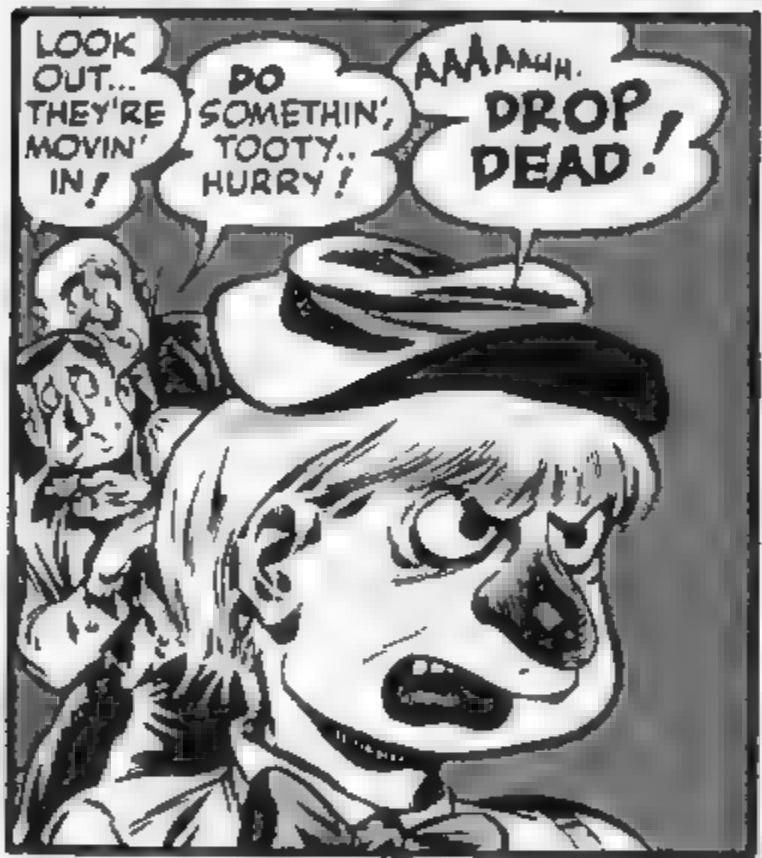


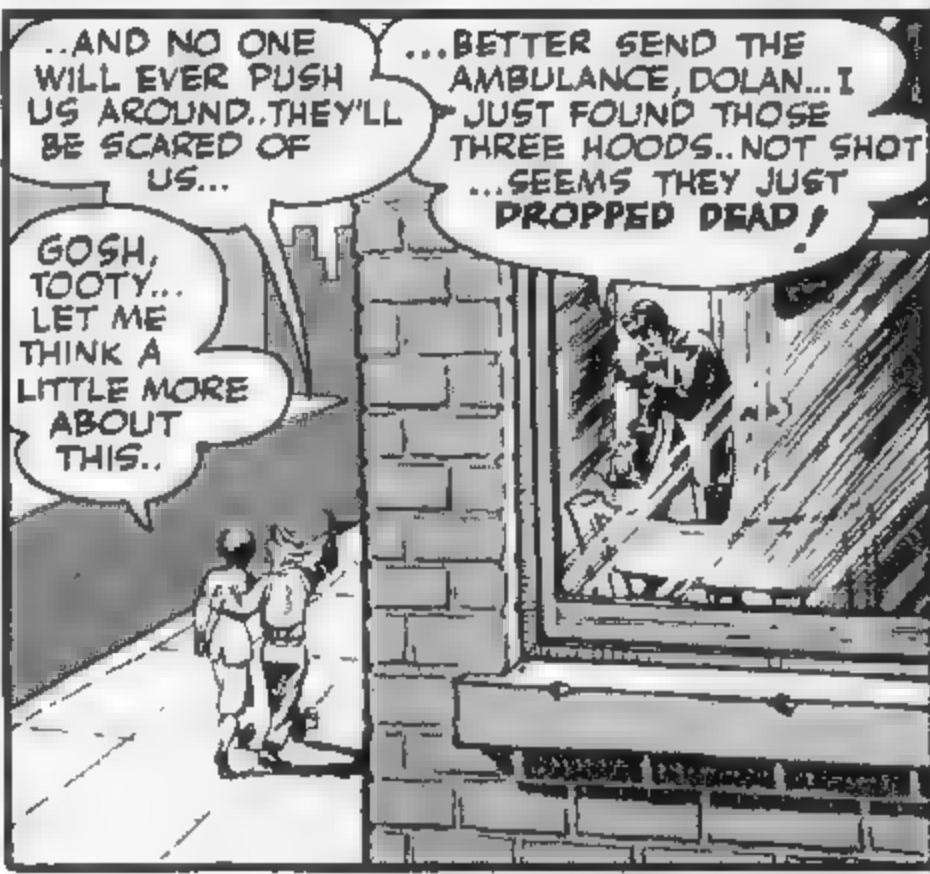
MEANWHILE... THE POLICE LINEUP...

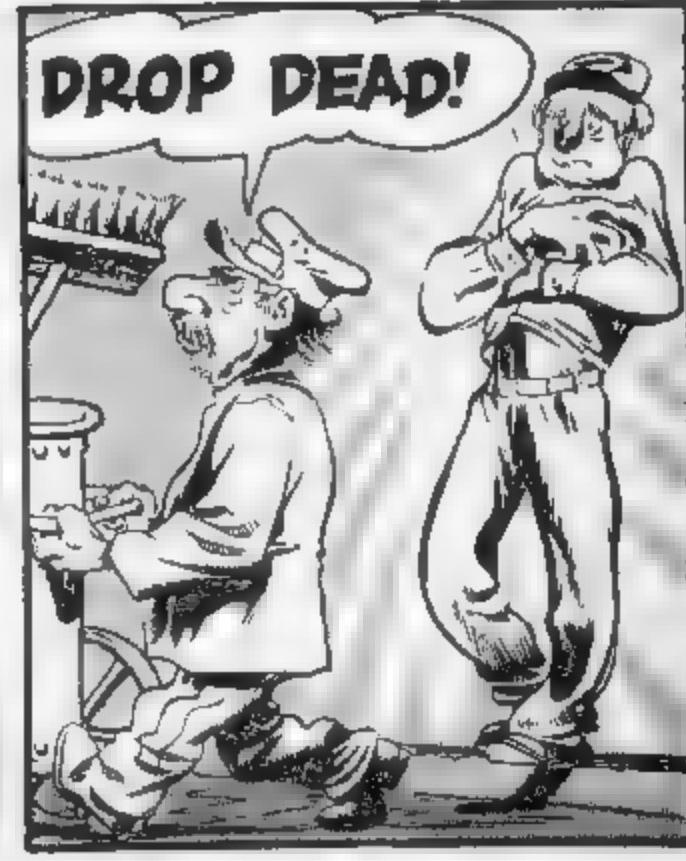
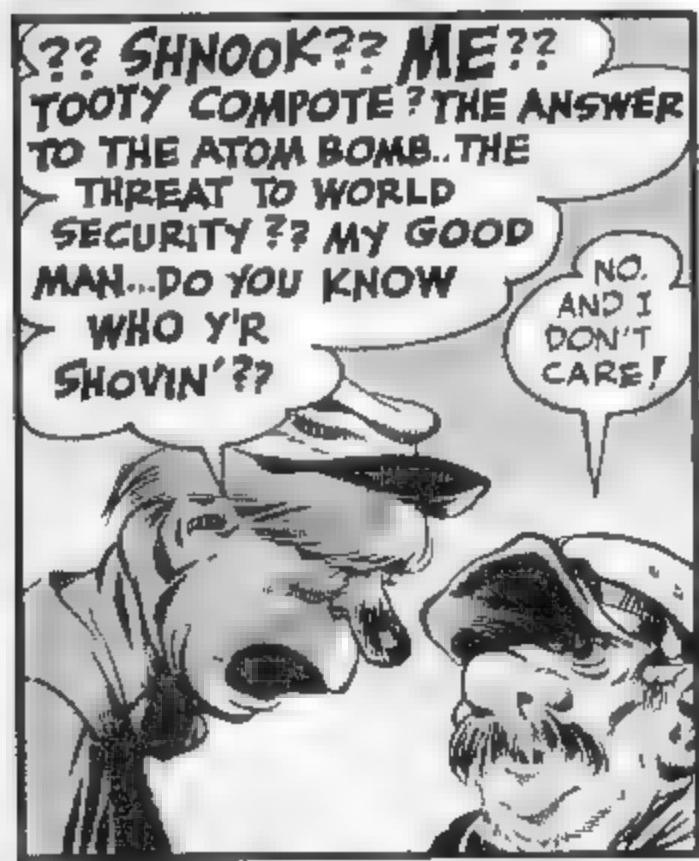
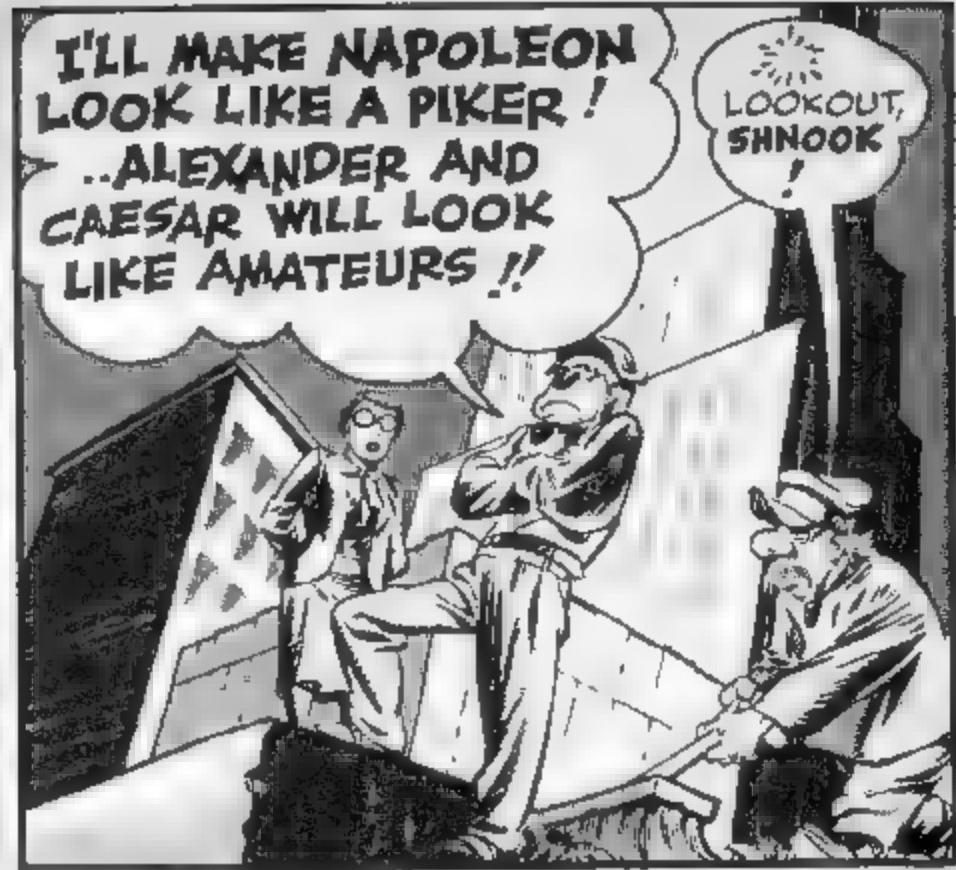


THE NEXT MORNING A DISHEVELED BUT FAMILIAR FIGURE IS FLUNG INTO A TRANSIENT CELL TO JOIN THE TORPEDOES OF THE MANGLES MOB.









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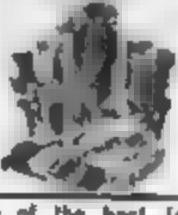
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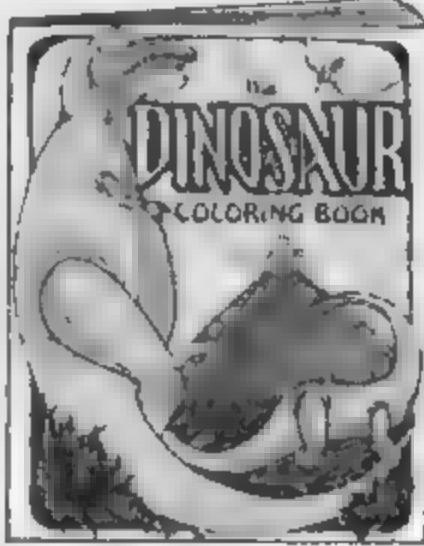
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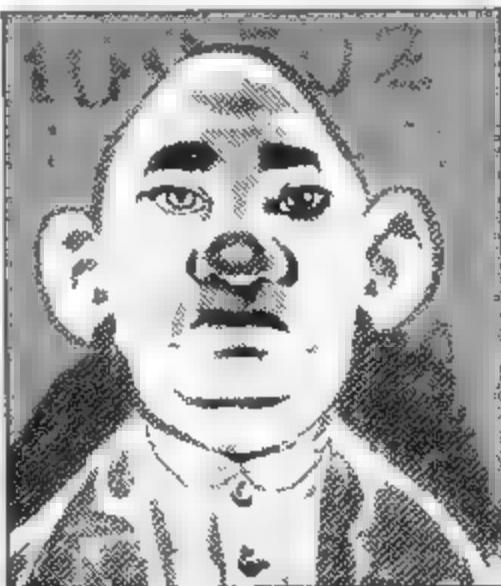
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BIG ARKY

ONE OF THE LINKS ROBBERY BANDITS IS STILL AT LARGE

Story on Page 2



Have you seen this man ??
This is an old Rogue's Gallery
photo. He is known as Big Arky

Save Water Asks Service Commission

Citizens of Central City
are asked to conserve
of the available
that is taken
upstate res
which has
all of this
water

Last of Robbers Who Stole
2 Million in Cash from
Links Co. is still Up the

DOLAN IS FETED AT DINNER

Commissioner Dolan



YEP,
DAT'S
ME!

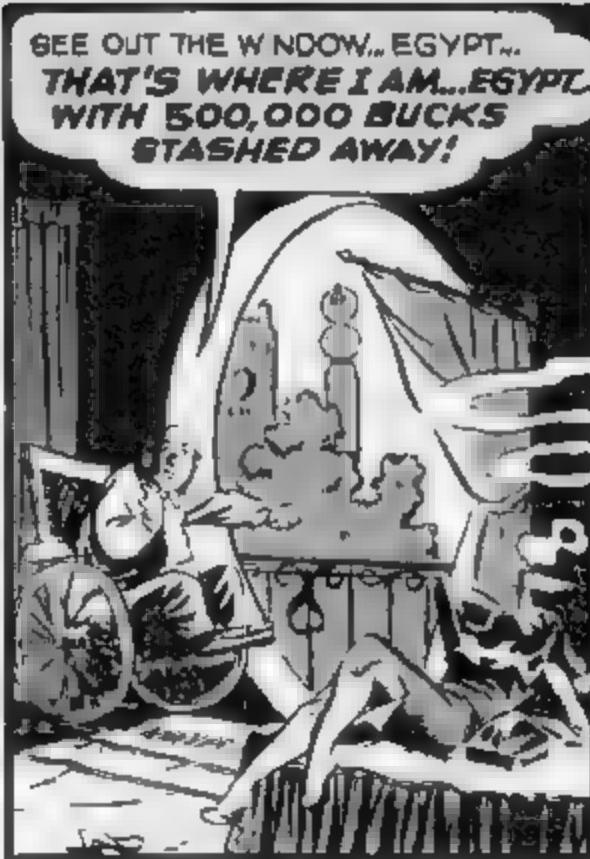
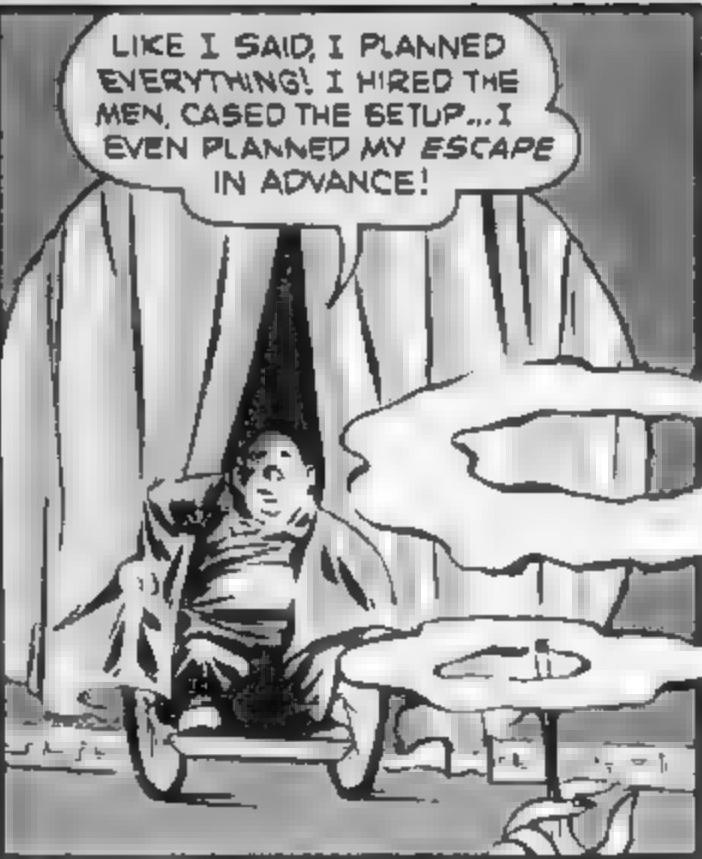
BIG ARKY
HIMSELF!

BY
WILL
EISNER

LIKE I SAID, I PLANNED EVERYTHING! I HIRED THE MEN, CASED THE SETUP...I EVEN PLANNED MY ESCAPE IN ADVANCE!

SEE OUT THE W NOOW.. EGYPT..
THAT'S WHERE I AM...EGYPT
WITH 500,000 BUCKS STASHED AWAY!

LIKE I SAID IT WASN'T EASY, BUT, WHEN I WUZ A KID, I LEARNED YA GOTTA WORK FOR WHAT YA GET! HUH? YA WANNA KNOW WHO THE SKIRT IS? PARDON ME, I F'GOT..THIS IS M'WIFE, MONA!



It wuz Mona who got me to pull the job!
Back in Central City, she wuz always yakkin' at me!

YOU AND YOUR CRUMMY
FORTY-DOLLAR-A-WEEK JOB!
YOU HAVEN'T PULLED A STICKUP
IN A YEAR! I THINK YER
GETTIN' COLD FEET!

AW, HONEY,
TAKE IT EASY..
I GOT
PLANS!

PLANS! YOU AND YOUR
PLANS! PLANS! WHEN WE
GOT MARRIED, YOU SAID YOU HAD
PLANS! BUT.. LOOK AT US NOW!
SO HELP ME, ARKY, SOMEDAY
I'LL LEAVE YOU!



I didn't pay no attention t'Mona..she wuz always talkin' that way! Then one day I come home from work...

MONA!
SHE'S GONE!



No note..no nothing! She just took her clothes on blew!

GONE... MONA'S
GONE...

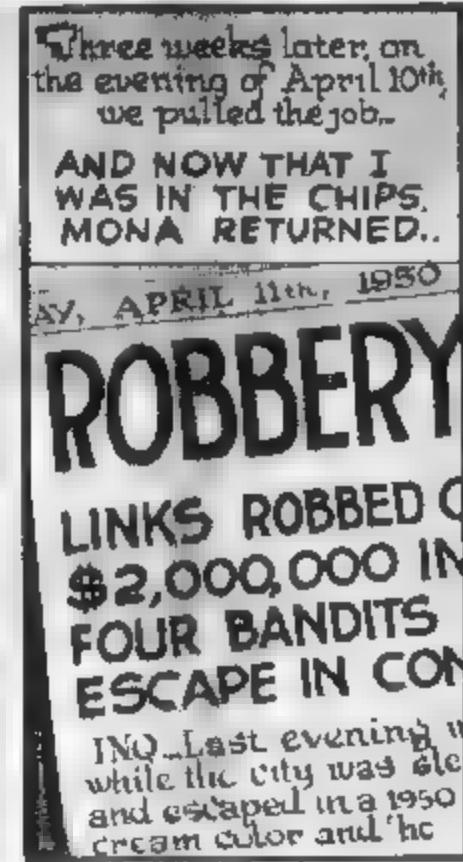
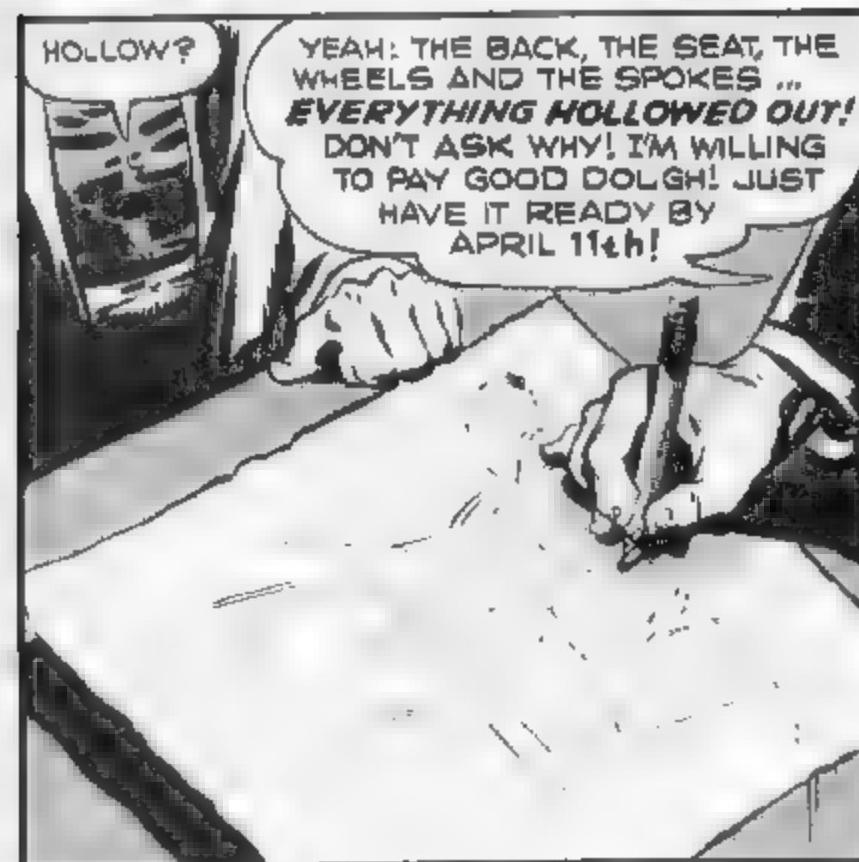
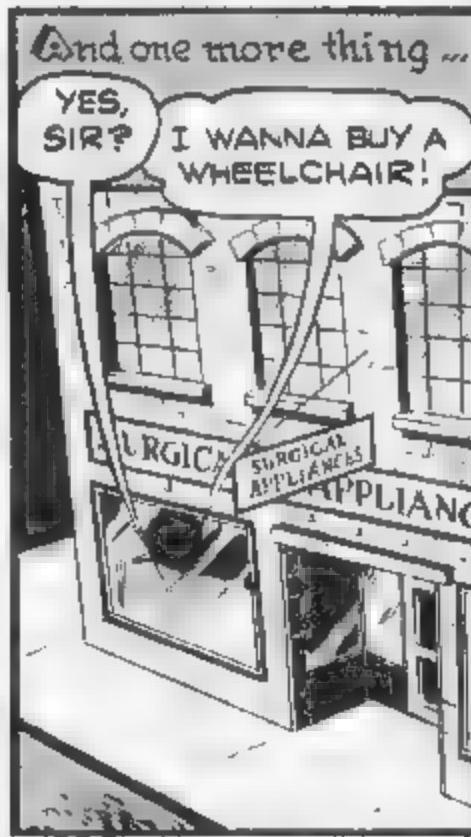


I walked..walked all night like I wuz in a coma..
I don't even remember where I met the guy..
I just remember him talkin'..

'SEASIEST PLACE INNA WORLD
T'CRACK..NINE DOORS TO TH' VAULTS AN' I GOT A KEY
THAT OPENS 'EM

ALL!





What night, the S.S. Majestic sailed
with Mona and me aboard.

HEAR ABOUT THE
B.G. ROBBERY
BEFORE WE
SET SAIL?
FRIGHTFUL
WASN'T
IT?

IF I WERE THOSE
CHAPS, I WOULDN'T
TRY TO LEAVE THE
COUNTRY. THEY
ALWAYS CATCH
THEM THAT
WAY!

CAN'T YOU
EVER GET
OUT OF THAT
G**N* WHEEL
CHAIR,
ARKY?

AS LONG
AS MY
CRIPPLE
ACT
GOES
OVER,
WE'RE
SAFE,
MONA!

THIS CHAIR IS MY HOME AS LONG AS THAT
500,000 BUCKS IS IN IT! I'M GONNA *LIVE*
IN IT! *SLEEP* IN IT! I'VE STRAPPED AND
TIED MYSELF TO IT! I WORKED *TOO HARD*
TO GET THIS DOUGH T'LET IT *EVER*
GET AWAY!

And so we came to Cairo...

YOU AND THIS G**N* CHAIR!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
WHILE YOU SIT DAY AND NIGHT?
I'M GETTING SICK
OF THIS!

THE SWANKIEST
HOTEL IN EGYPT!
WE'RE SET, BABY!
WE'RE SET!

ARKY, THE...THE **SPIRIT**
WAS IN THAT ELEVATOR! HE
MUST'VE FOLLOWED US
FROM CENTRAL CITY!
WE GOTTA GET
OUTA HERE!

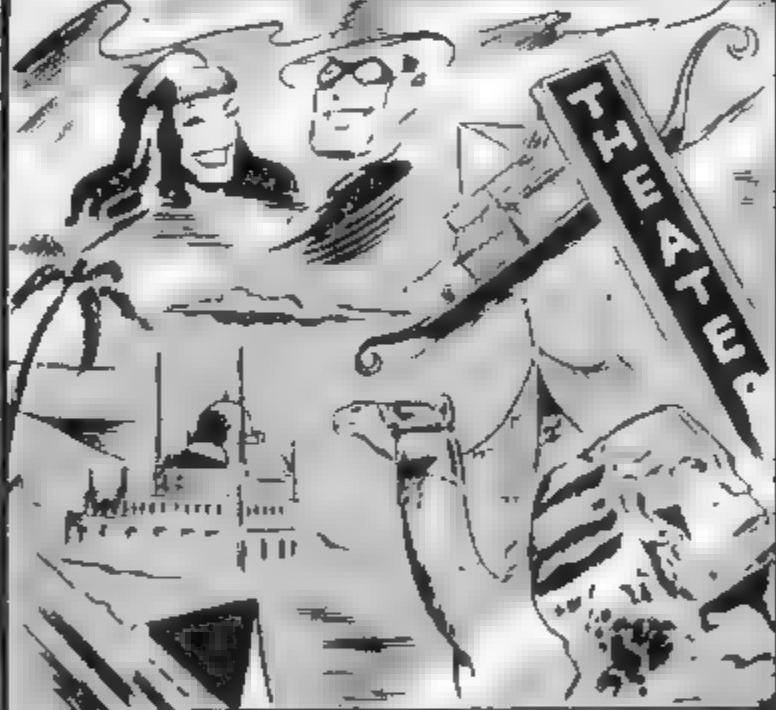
NO..ONCE WE START RUNNIN',
WE'LL NEVER STOP! WE
GOTTA FIND OUT IF HE
REALLY KNOWS ANYTHING;
AND THAT, MONA, IS
**YOUR
JOB!**



Next day



On the next few days, Mona got the SPIRIT to take her EVERYPLACE... show her EVERYTHING!



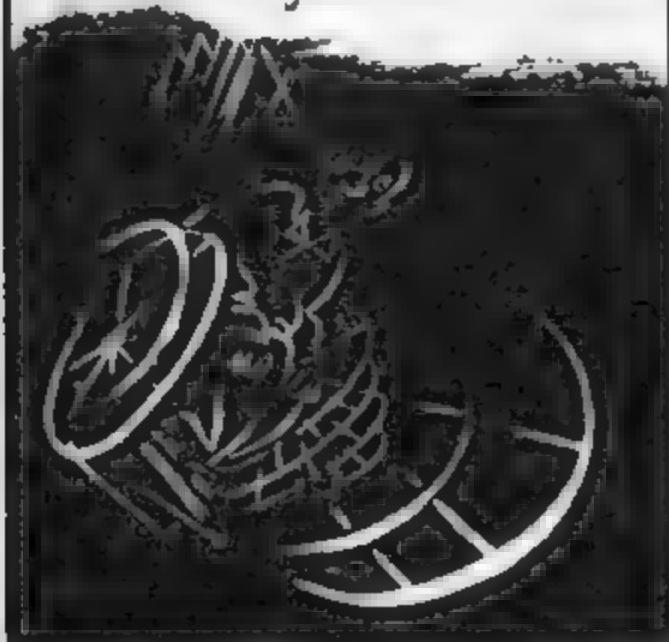
IT'S THIS CHAIR! THIS GRRRRD I'M LOSIN' HER AGAIN... AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF THIS CHAIR!



I dreamed I had unstrapped myself from the chair... and my legs was wheels and I was rolling back... and... forth...

And slowly the dream went away...

YOU TRIED TO STEAL MY MONEY! YOU DOPED MY COFFEE AND TRIED A DOUBLECROSS!



WHATYA THINK? I'M NOT GONNA WAIT TILL YOU DECIDE TO GET OUT OF THAT CHAIR AND SPEND THE DOUGH! I WANT IT NOW!

I'LL... GET OUT OF... THE CHAIR... MONA!

I'LL GET OUT!

GET AWAY, ARKY!

GET AWAY!
EER!



MONA IS DEAD AND THE MONEY IS STILL HERE IN THIS WHEEL-CHAIR THAT I'M SITTIN' IN!

I JUST CALLED THE RAILROAD STATION! THERE'S A TRAIN PULLING OUT FOR THE INLAND IN TWENTY MINUTES! ME AND MY CHAIR... WE'LL BOTH BE ON IT!

I'LL BE GOIN' NOW! THOSE OTHER SUCKERS IN THE ROBBERY... THEY GET CAUGHT! BUT NOT BIG ARKY! NO, SIR, NOT BIG ARKY!



GOOD... NOBODY'S ON THE
STREET... BUHHE IF I C'N
GET BUHHE TO THE RAIL-
ROAD STATION WITHOUT
BEIN' SEEN...

... I GOT
NOTHING
TO WORRY
ABOUT!

HEY! ... THIS HILL...
I CAN'T
STOP!

HELP! HELP!
I CAN'T STOP
THE CHAIR!

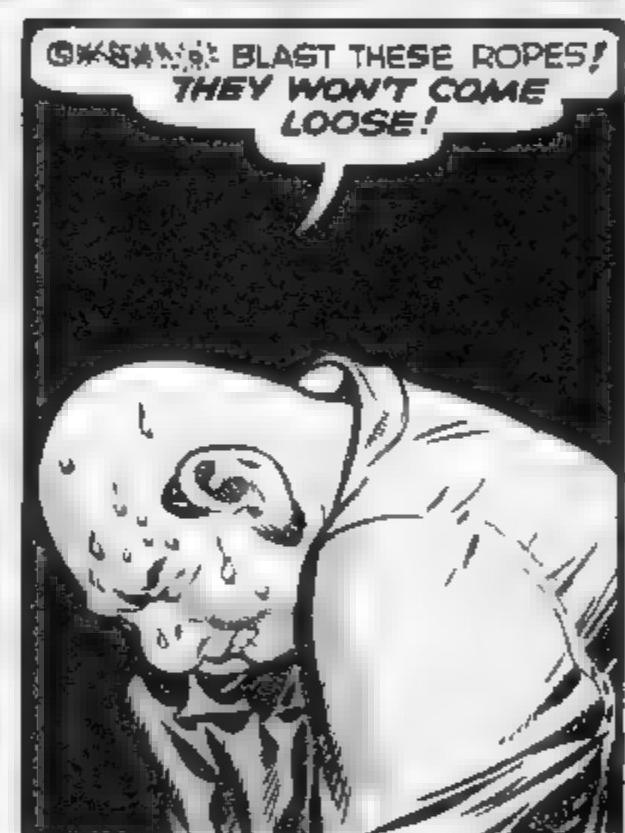


IT... IT STOPPED! PUFF PUFF HA, HA, I WUZ SCARED THERE FER A MINUTE... HA, HA!

WHOO.

HEY!
I'M ON THE
TRACKS...
GOTTA GET OFF...
LOOSEN THE STRAPS!

GEEZAH! BLAST THESE ROPES!
THEY WON'T COME LOOSE!



The Christmas SPIRIT

a fable

by
Will Eisner

And there was peace

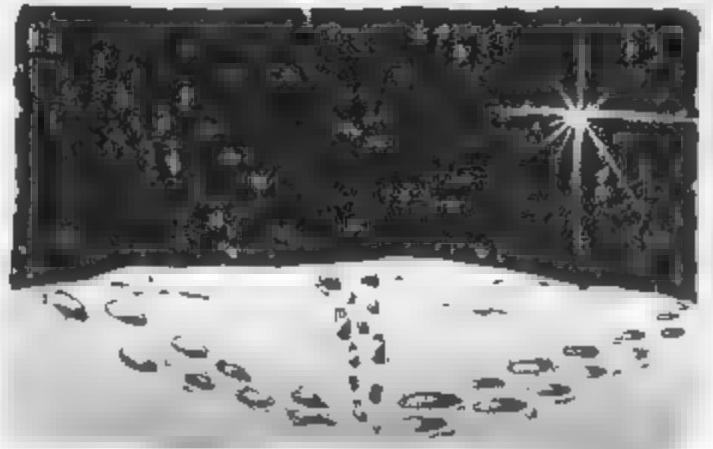
But the shepherds
their swords still clasped
And their sheep,
the people, milled upon the
bloody plain, not knowing whither
they would go

Then did come from
the three corners of the land
three wise men to meet and
decide upon a new direction

For the sheep were
weary and the flock yearned
for green fields and quiet
pastures and they were
sore impatient

So on the shores of
the Atlantic sea they were met

. . . And there did confer
in the manner of men



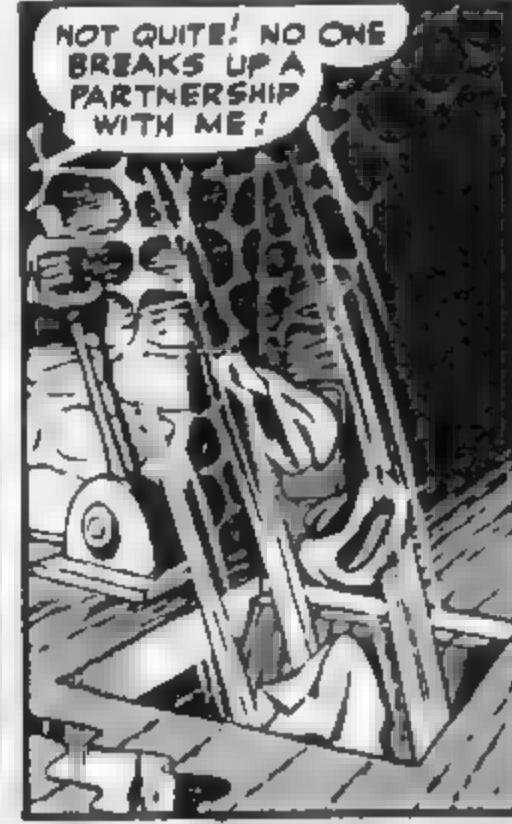
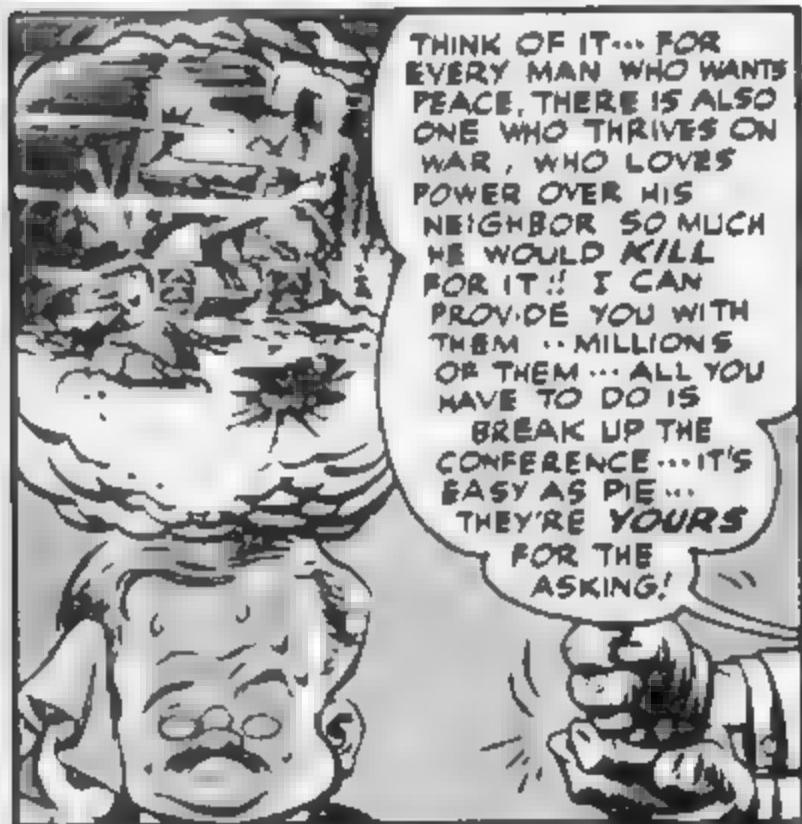
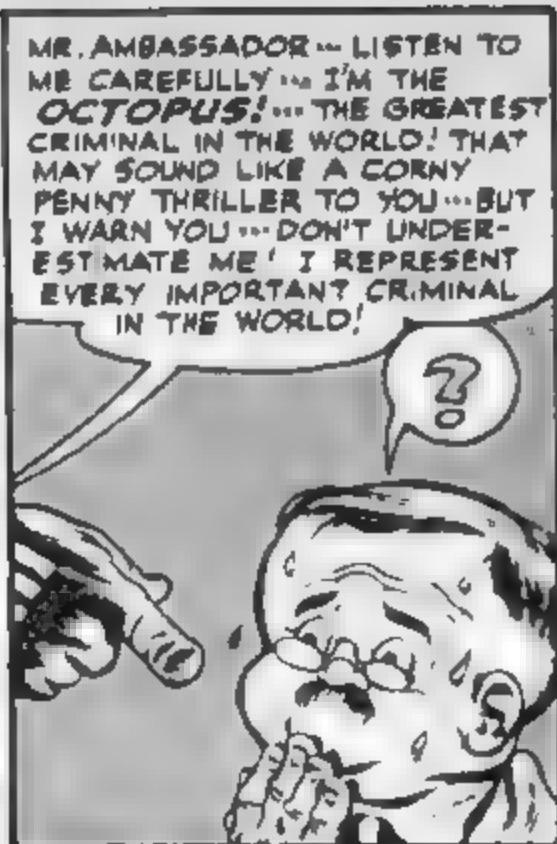
Jthus did it come to pass that the three wise men abandoned all hope and sought to return to their native lands ~ ~ ~ and the time was Christmas, a season of miracles ~ ~ ~



Meanwhile...

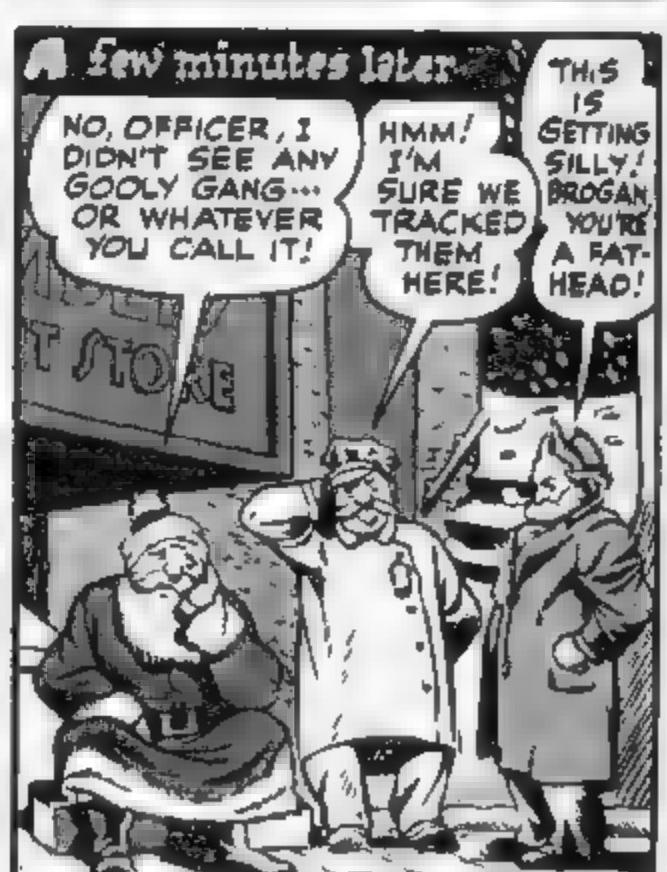
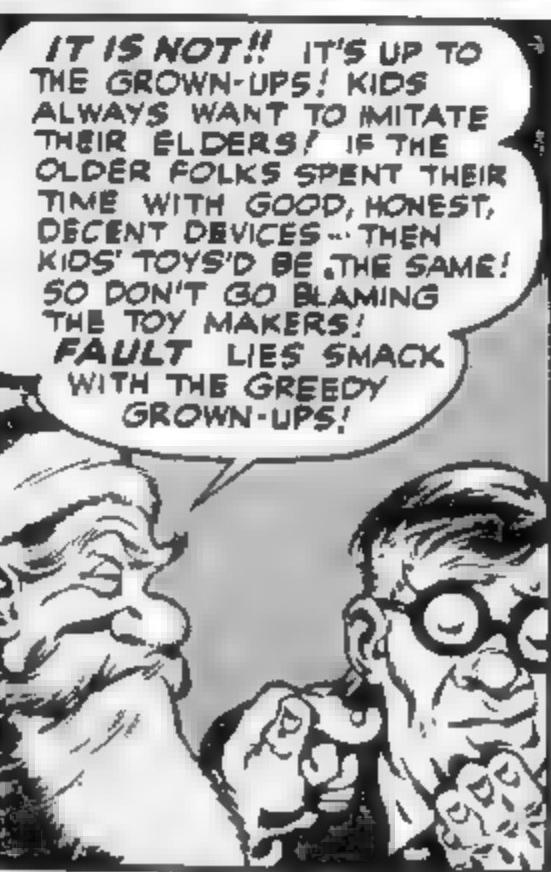


and so...



M

Meanwhile



Next day...



And lo, the sheep issued forth upon
the plains
And they waxed fat and prospered...
And no longer did man covet his
neighbor's for there was plenty for all...
And the wicked found no sin nor was
there profit in crime.....
And men had time for learning and
knew no fear,
And as generation succeeded
generation, warfare became as
medieval as the plague and our wars
the dark ages.....

And there was Peace on earth,
Good Will toward men



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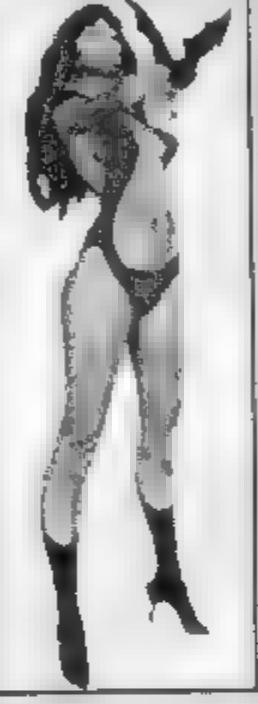
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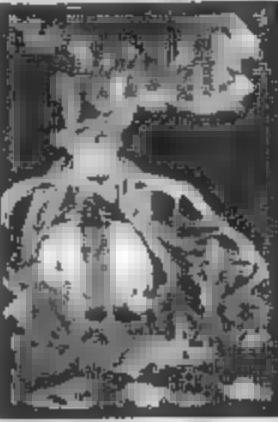


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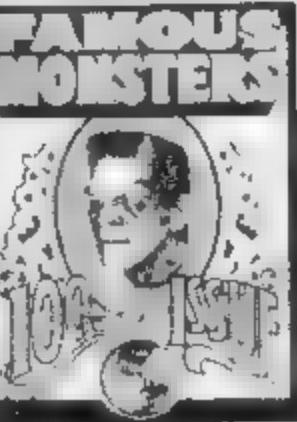
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mysterious, deadly,
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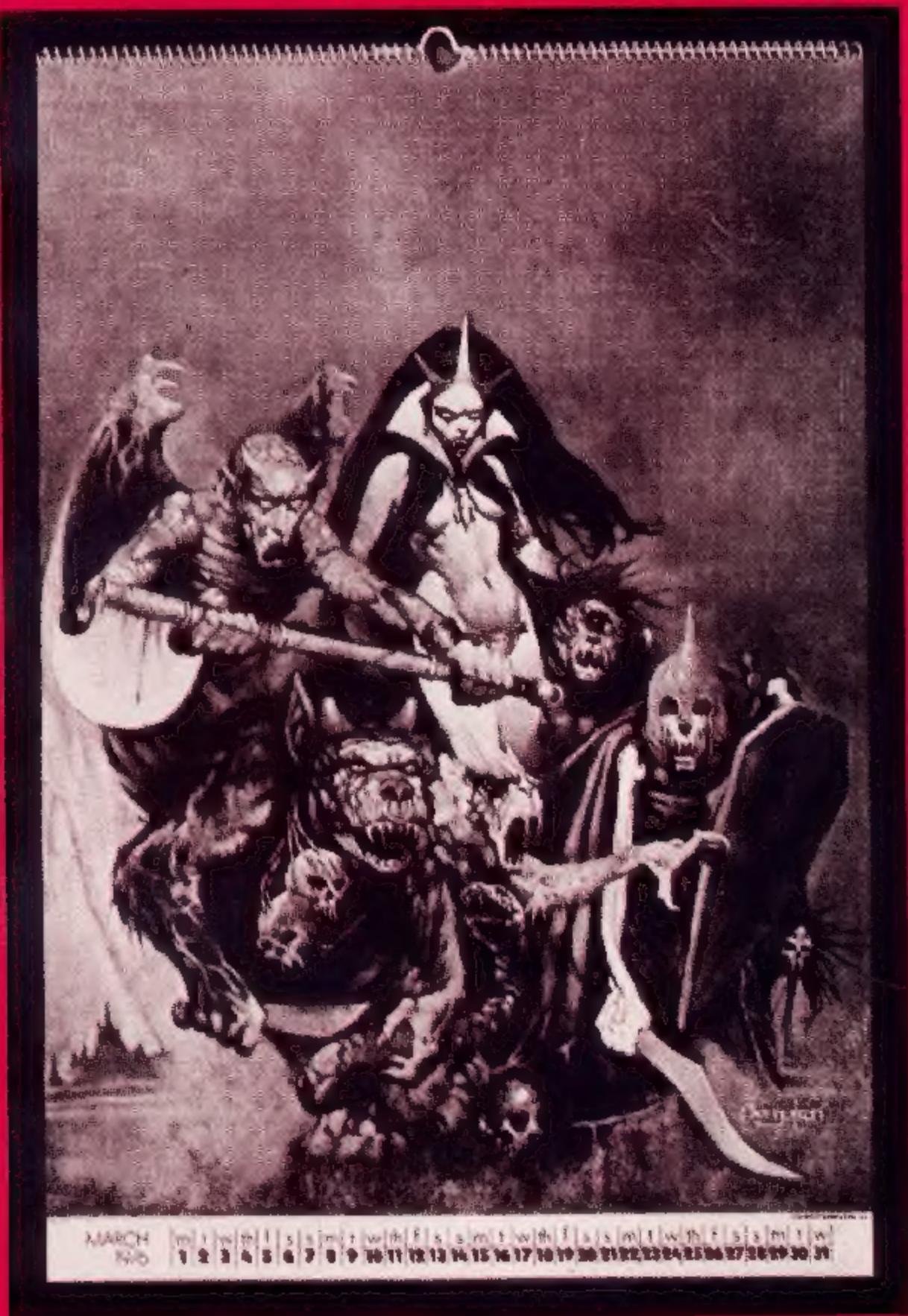
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